

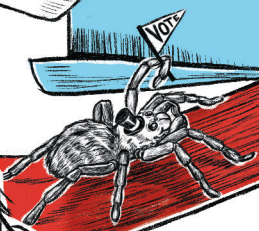
University of Richmond Magazine



I do solemnly swear ★
— THAT —
I WILL FAITHFULLY EXECUTE
the Office of President
OF THE
United States,
AND WILL TO THE BEST OF MY ABILITY,
preserve, protect
and defend
the CONSTITUTION
of the
UNITED STATES.

the 2016
Election
A Spiders
Guide

- Our bizarre elections -
- 20 minutes w/ POTUS -
&
- Why we'll never get
back to normal again -

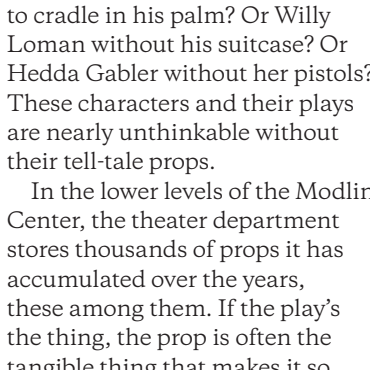


EYE

WHO YOU KNOW Some of the most fascinating views of campus come from tagging along with facilities staff. That's what photographer Jamie Betts did to get this image looking up into the tower of Jepson Hall. He's not in a publicly accessible area, but you can easily imagine where he took this: Picture walking in Jepson's main door, stopping in the foyer, and looking up through the ceiling with X-ray vision. Yes, a facilities keyring is a lot like a superpower.







PROPS TO PROPS Where would Hamlet be without Yurick's skull to cradle in his palm? Or Willy Loman without his suitcase? Or Hedda Gabler without her pistols? These characters and their plays are nearly unthinkable without their tell-tale props.

In the lower levels of the Modlin Center, the theater department stores thousands of props it has accumulated over the years, these among them. If the play's the thing, the prop is often the tangible thing that makes it so.

Photographs by Gordon Schmidt



EDITOR'S NOTE

Ballot initiative

On the day I voted in my first presidential election, I walked to the polling place with my father. As we made our way to the basement of a nearby church, we talked about how we were about to cancel out each other's votes and both smiled about it. "I didn't raise a robot," he told me.

Based on what I know of my uncles', aunts', and cousins' views on various things, I suspect there's a rich tradition of vote-canceling among my warm and loving extended family. We Dewalds may not be swinging the vote wildly in one direction or the other, but we're certainly doing our part for voter turnout.

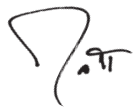
I suspect that this November, Spiders will, too, because Spiders are nothing if not involved and engaged. For proof, look no further than those dual student governments and honor councils, plus all of the Greek organizations, intramural teams, and service and special-interest clubs across campus and out in our broader Richmond community.

As President Crutcher points out in his essay on Page 7, meaningful engagement with one another becomes even more important when we're seeing issues, experiences, and perspectives as gaping chasms that divide us. The opposite of love isn't hate, Holocaust survivor Elie Wiesel famously observed. It's indifference. We have to stay at the table, involved with one another.

Engagement is foundational to our educational approach at the University of Richmond. We connect disparate disciplines, ideas, and data to help us think in new ways. Increased knowledge, empathy, and understanding, as President Crutcher writes, has the power to recalibrate our perspectives and leads to progress. Simply turning away from one another is a failure and an opportunity lost.

Universities like ours have an essential role to play in reinforcing the value of walking alongside one another across our differences. Everywhere from Gottwald Science Center to South Court to the turf at Robins Stadium, we teach not just knowledge but habits of mind that lead to lives of purpose, thoughtful inquiry, and responsible leadership. Our world needs that more than ever.

I have no idea whether Dad and I will cancel one another's votes again in November. One thing I do know for sure is that, as I make my way to my local polling place, I'll be thinking about him and smiling.



—Matthew Dewald
Editor, University of Richmond Magazine



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ON THE COVER:
Illustration by Katie McBride



#SPIDERLOVE

"Legend has it you will marry whoever you kiss in the University of Richmond gazebo. ... WHAT DOES THIS MEAN?" Ali O'Keeffe Zebrowski wrote on Instagram. But no worries. "My husband (Mike, pictured — the one without paws) and I kissed in the gazebo right after we graduated in 2012. I'd say the legend worked out well for us (and our sweet pup Atticus)."

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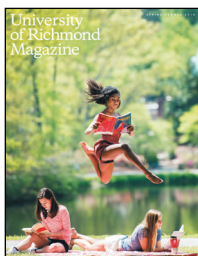
Back Then

On Sept. 11, 1940,
a ship docked at
Norfolk, and a Spider
probably saved the
passengers' lives.

Postscript

A closer look
at *Bloomberg's*
business school
rankings

INBOX



YOUR MAGAZINE, YOUR VOICE

Let us know what you think about what you read in this issue. Email your thoughts to magazine@richmond.edu or send us a letter (our postal address is on Page 5). Please include your class year, city, state, and maiden name, if applicable. All letters to the editor may be edited for clarity or brevity and should not exceed 200 words. We also welcome your story tips at magazine@richmond.edu.

Opinions expressed here are those of the letter writers, not necessarily those of the magazine or this institution.

WHERE ARE YOU READING UR MAGAZINE?

Curled up by the fire? On the ski slopes or a sunny Caribbean beach? Send us a photo showing where you read the magazine — and feel free to include your smiling face. Tag us on social media @urichmondmag or email the photo to us at magazine@richmond.edu.



BLEED RICHMOND

I wanted to write to express my appreciation of your giving some ink to the UR rugby team ["Blood, Sweat, and (College) Years," Spring/Summer 2016]. As a former rugby player at Richmond, I really enjoyed the article. Rugby was and remains a fundamental part of my time at UR. I developed my closest friendships through involvement on the team.

Coach Schmitt is a friend of mine and does an excellent job. UR is lucky to have someone so committed to the sport and the development of young men on their staff.

—Gerald Bowman, R'76
Munich, Germany



VIA SOCIAL MEDIA

Feeling very blessed to have these experiences in Rio. Had to rep @spiderswimdiv as I watched the best in the world compete. Special shoutout to U.S. men's water polo for taking the W against France (in a much greener pool) this morning.

A little background: My 18-year-old brother plays for the U.S. men's Olympic water polo team, so we came down to cheer him on and were able to watch some preliminary heats of swimming. Phelps and Lochte swam the 200m individual medley that morning.

—@edunst, via Instagram

[Editor's note: Erin Dunston, '17, is a member of Richmond's swimming and diving team.]

FEW BUT MIGHTY

@Stinziano I was looking at the @URichmondMag and saw you're a fellow Spider. Nice to see a former D-hall diner in Cbus [Columbus, Ohio].

—@joeloliphant via Twitter

@joeloliphant @URichmondMag Indeed there are few but mighty Spiders in Cbus. 🕷️

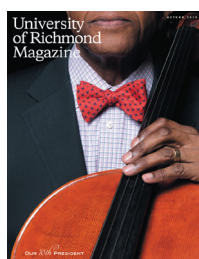
—@Stinziano via Twitter



YOU CAN COME HOME AGAIN

10 years @urichmond Reunion Weekend. Thankful that the rain held out. Gorgeous night and good company @URichmondMag.

—@the_tamish



KUDOS

In June, we shared the news that the magazine's Autumn 2015 cover introducing Ronald A. Crutcher as Richmond's 10th president received the Gold Award for cover design in the national Circle of Excellence Awards from the Council for the Advancement and Support of Education.

design in the national Circle of Excellence Awards from the Council for the Advancement and Support of Education.

Congrats, @URichmondMag! Well deserved. ❤️💙#design #spiderpride.

—@Rbccawilson via Twitter

@URichmondMag Congrats! Such a fun cover :)

—@tb623 via Twitter

WHERE ARE YOU READING?



Our head coach, Asha Banda, '04, took this in Salamanca, Spain, this summer.

—@richmondsynchro via Instagram

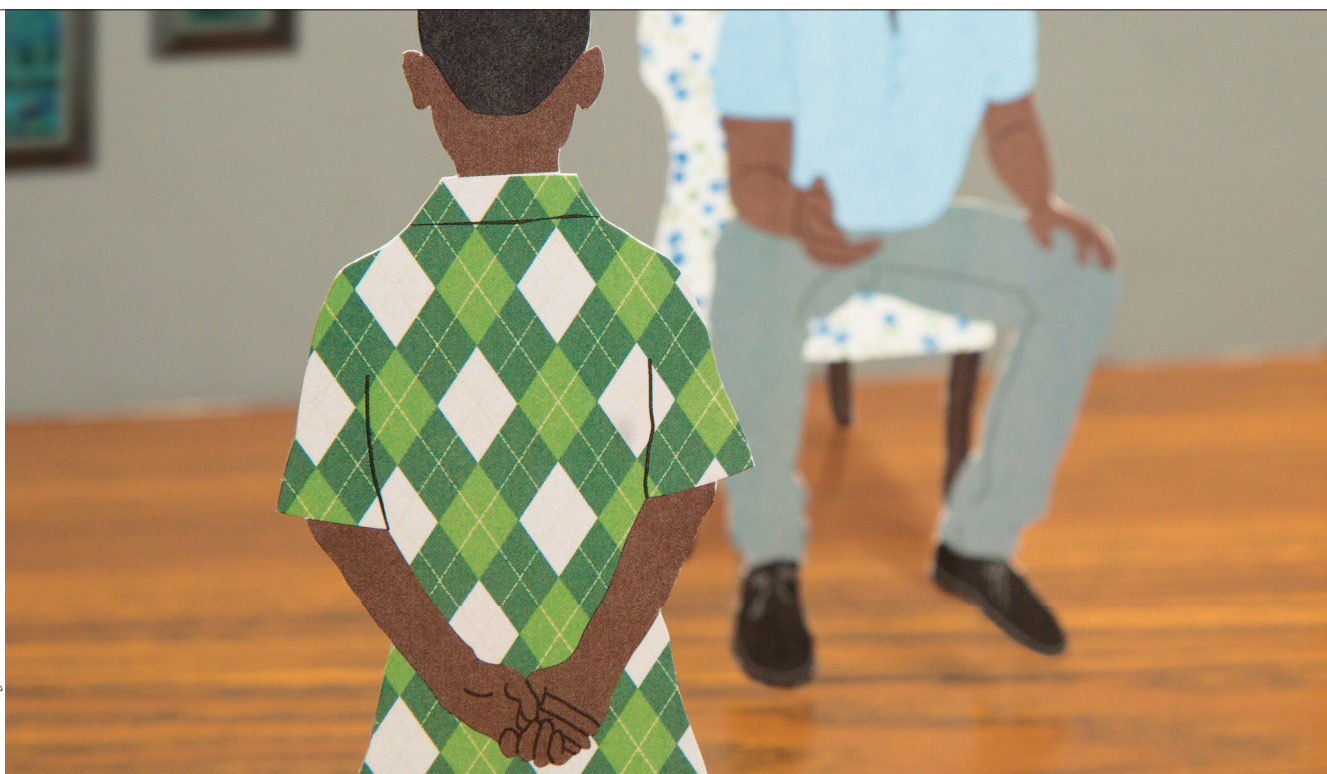


Required #SpiderReunion travel gear: @vineyardvines Shep shirt & @URichmondMag! 🕷️❤️💙#GoSpiders #OneRichmond

—@amelia_vogler via Twitter

Where are you showing your Spider Pride? Send your photos for the winter issue to magazine@richmond.edu.

Illustration by Chris Romero



On listening

Lessons from his father taught President Ronald A. Crutcher the importance of listening as a strategy for engaging meaningfully with one another.

Nearly two decades ago, I traveled to Texas to meet the CEO of a successful company to talk about funding for violin scholarships. We had barely finished shaking hands when the words came out of his mouth: “I had no idea you were black.”

I remember the details of that day with vivid clarity. I was the director of the Butler School of Music at the University of Texas. The CEO was on the board of an important foundation whose financial support we were seeking.

His salutation stopped me in my tracks. This wasn’t the way I expected to begin a conversation about financial aid or any other topic. I didn’t respond immediately. Instead, I thought of the lessons of my father, a man who was prone to passionate and sometimes regrettable outbursts as a young man but who, as an adult and a parent, had taught my brothers and me to pause, contemplate, and listen in situations like this.

And so I paused. I listened, and I listened some more as my host wondered aloud why there were so few black violinists, how he had noticed this imbalance as a patron of the venerable Aspen Music Festival, and how the classical music community could better recruit artists of color. In reply, I spoke passionately about our programs at the Butler School and offered my enthusiasm for a violinist named Eliesha Nelson. Currently a member of the viola section of the Cleveland Orchestra, Eliesha was a former advisee of mine at the

Cleveland Institute of Music who had come to UT-Austin to work on her master’s degree

This enthusiastic exchange of ideas quickly overshadowed my initial shock at how our conversation had begun. I shudder to think how differently the meeting may have gone had I responded immediately.

Meaningful understanding — honed through unexpected or uncomfortable experiences, nurtured through the type of liberal education we offer at Richmond — happens every time we open ourselves to someone who is different from us, whether because of ethnic background, sexual orientation, wealth, religious belief, political affiliation, or ideology. For it to happen, we must commit ourselves to listening, even when what we hear knocks us off balance. These conversations may not always be easy, but they will be educational; they challenge us and students alike to broaden our minds and perspectives.

At Richmond, we pursue opportunities to create interactions like these every day. Sixty percent of our students participate in study-abroad programs, bringing fresh perspectives back to campus when they return. Our academic programs expose students to new ideas and ways of thinking, and our small classes enable faculty members to engage students directly in the complexity of problems and the benefit that new perspectives bring to understanding. Through living-learning communities and

interdisciplinary academic programs, such as Integrated Qualitative Science; Philosophy, Politics, Economics, and Law; and Health-care Studies, students learn to connect disparate disciplines — and their competing views of the world — to advance knowledge.

The problems we confront today are knotty and complex, and addressing them effectively will require more perspectives, not fewer. You likely remember a time in your years on campus when you rethought your position about something in a class, when a reading or lecture opened up to you an entirely new way of understanding a problem, or when you stayed up late debating an issue back and forth with classmates — solving the world’s problems emboldened by youth and caffeine. One of the most important things these experiences teach is this: Engaged citizenship is complicated.

Such experiences also teach us that differences in opinion need not lead to acrimony, name-calling, or unrest. What often recalibrates our perspectives and leads to progress are the knowledge, empathy, and understanding that emerge from candid and substantive conversations as we take the time to listen to those who are unlike us. That is the promise of liberal education at the University of Richmond, a promise that prepares educated citizens who can engage meaningfully with one another, meet challenges with resilience and compassion, and discern new possibilities for the world in which we live.

CIVIC ENGAGEMENT

Careful listening and thoughtful consideration are at the heart of our relationship with the Richmond community. The Bonner Center for Civic Engagement, the University’s hub for connecting UR and local communities in collaborative and sustained partnerships, begins by listening to community-identified needs as it shapes learning opportunities for students. More information is available at engage.richmond.edu.

HEALTH & WELLNESS



**Special
Olympics
Virginia**

PERCEPTION

Sports are a powerful force for shifting the focus from disability to ability and countering negative stereotypes and misperceptions, according to the Special Olympics organization.

"This is as much for the community as it is for the athletes," Rick Jeffrey, president of Special Olympics Virginia, said at Robins Stadium. "If you view these guys differently, their lives get better."



Photograph by Matthew Dewald

UR IN RVA

Special Olympics Virginia athletes undergoing vision screenings on Tarrant Court in the Robins Center. The games' credo is, "Let me win. But if I cannot win, let me be brave in the attempt."

Games on

They were pulling teeth on the concourse of the Robins Center in June. That's not a metaphor. Real patients sat in 18 dental chairs lined up where Spider basketball fans buy concessions as dental professionals took X-rays, made mouth guards, cleaned teeth, filled cavities, and even, when necessary, pulled teeth, all for free.

And that's not all. Down the steps on Tarrant Court, other health care workers did physical therapy, conducted eye exams, and ground lenses for eye-glasses on the spot for patients.

The health fair provided an estimated \$450,000 in medical services. It was part of Special Olympics Virginia's annual Summer Games, which returned to campus for its 32nd year.

"Special Olympics is a life-changing, great opportunity for people with intellectual disabilities," said Rick Jeffrey, president.

More than 1,300 athletes and another 700 supporters stayed on campus and nearby for two days

promoting health and fitness. Robins Stadium was the hub, home to the opening ceremony and track-and-field events. Athletes also competed on campus in tennis and bocce and at other community locations.

Coach Matt Basdeo came with his brother, who ran the 100m and 200m after getting an eye exam. Basdeo volunteers, he said, "mostly because of my brother. I feel like I'm making a difference when I'm out there."

The heat on the track at Robins Stadium was withering on Saturday, so the fans congregated in tents near the track or in the high seats that offer shade. They cheered every athlete, from the ones who ran 100m in a dash to others who struggled but persevered to complete a 25m walk.

"This is a great piece of community engagement," Jeffrey said. "You see folks from all over the community here. ... Athletes are getting healthy, fitter, and better, with a chance to be successful and win."

ACCOLADE



HALL OF FAME The Robins School of Business honored its late namesake in June by making him the inaugural member of its newly launched Alumni Hall of Fame. In 1969, when financial issues threatened the University, E. Claiborne Robins, R'31, donated \$50 million. Robins died in 1995.

"E. Claiborne Robins understood that his investment could create an institution of distinction capable of graduating global citizens who would make a difference in the world," said Ronald A. Crutcher, president.

PLANNING

Strategic plan update

In May, working groups organized around four themes — academic excellence, intellectual community, access and affordability, and thriving and inclusive community — began meeting to develop and recommend draft goals and initiatives that will become the basis of the strategic plan for 2017–22.

The plan's development is paced deliberately to be highly participatory as the steering committee seeks the active involvement of alumni, faculty, staff, students, and parents at each significant juncture. Working groups are expected to begin sharing drafts of their goals and initiatives for feedback in October.

More information about the plan is available at strategicplan.richmond.edu and via email updates. To update your email address with the University, email us at magazine@richmond.edu or register at uronline.net.

DISTINCTION

A Goldwater

Chemistry professor Carol Parish received the 2016 Goldwater Scholars Faculty Mentor Award, a national honor that recognizes her research and her ability to involve undergraduates in it.

In the past 14 years, Parish has co-written 27 research publications with 59 undergraduate co-authors. Her students have won numerous awards, including eight Goldwater scholarships, three scholarships from the American Chemical Society, a Fulbright fellowship, and a Rhodes scholarship.

"I have the best job in the world — mentoring the next generation of scientists and entrepreneurs," Parish said.

And a Fulbright

Klarabelle Celine Ang, '16, left campus after commencement bound for Morocco as a Fulbright English Teaching Assistant. The California native studied in both France and Morocco and was a French drill instructor on campus.

"As a language student myself, I have experienced how languages can be tools to broaden perspectives," she said.

Richmond's international education program sends nearly 65 percent of undergraduates to study abroad with University support, while bringing international students from more than 75 countries to study on campus.

QUOTATION

“Taking on this work, which is a showpiece for star cellists, was a pretty gutsy move.”

CLARKE BUSTARD, in the *Richmond Times-Dispatch*, reviewing a July 6 duet by President Ronald A. Crutcher and Joanne Kong, director of accompaniment in the music department, of a Rachmaninoff sonata. Their performance, which opened the Richmond Symphony Summer Series, sold out so quickly that the symphony added a second night.

MEDIA



Photograph by Johnny Louis/FilmMagic

ONE OF OUR OWN

The University of Richmond shared the spotlight as media introduced the nation to Tim Kaine.

Media glare

Tim Kaine's nomination for vice president turned the national spotlight on Richmond faculty.

Press outlets across the country noted Kaine's current part-time continuing faculty appointment at Richmond Law and the Jepson School of Leadership Studies. He joined the Richmond Law faculty in 1987 and taught for six years before he was elected to public office. Since then, he has taught occasionally and regularly participates in events and symposia.

The Washington Post, in a story distributed nationally, turned to political science professor Dan Palazzolo, who predicted Kaine would do well in debates and interviews.

“He has a broad range of governing experience, most importantly,” Palazzolo said. “I don't think that should be understated, especially this year.”

He also spoke with NBC News, telling them that opponents are unlikely

to turn up any Kaine-related scandals.

“There are no skeletons in his closet,” Palazzolo said. “I don't know if you know about some of these politicians in Virginia. Some have a seedy past. None of that is going to happen with Tim Kaine.”

For NPR, Palazzolo discussed criticism by some Democrats that Kaine is too centrist. “I think it suggests just how far the liberal wing of the party has gone, and how aggressive they are about their demands,” he said.

Thad Williamson, a professor in the Jepson School, called Kaine's selection “a bold choice” in an op-ed that ran in the *Philadelphia Inquirer* during the Democratic National Convention. “Kaine is best understood as a committed social justice advocate ... intent on not just being right but being effective” during his political career in the city of Richmond and in Virginia, he wrote.

IN THE NEWS

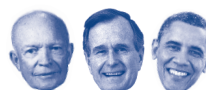
Even when the VP candidate isn't a faculty member, national and local media turn to Richmond for perspective and expertise as they cover news and events. Here's a sample of other recent stories that put the University in the news:

The Washington Post

The Washington Post turned to law professor **ANDREW SPALDING** in May for a story about the U.S. Justice Department looking into allegations of doping by Russian Olympic athletes. The U.S. is “trying to change worldwide cultural norms around bribery and fraud and just governance generally,” he said. “These sports cases, they're a bullhorn for the anti-corruption message, because people listen.”

C-SPAN

Also in May, C-SPAN broadcast FBI Director **JAMES COMEY**'s commencement address to Richmond Law's Class of 2016. He told graduates that good judgment is a rarer attribute than intelligence. “Very intelligent people can master a data set and show you the answer on a graph,” he said. “People of great judgment can look at that and say, ‘That's what it says. Let me tell you what it means.’”



FAMILIAR FACES

Presidents, too, have a habit of coming to Richmond. In 1946, future president Gen. Dwight Eisenhower accepted an honorary degree in Cannon Memorial Chapel. Gerald Ford, then a former president, stumped for Ronald Reagan in Jenkins Greek Theatre in 1980. President George H.W. Bush and future president Bill Clinton debated (with H. Ross Perot) in the Robins Center in 1992. President Barack Obama promoted a jobs plan in the Robins Center in 2011.

The Atlantic

For an Aug. 3 story examining Bernie Sanders' education proposals, *The Atlantic* discussed the UR Summer Fellowship program, which funds research and internship opportunities for all students. It's because of programs like that, enrollment management vice president **STEPHANIE DUPAUL** said, that “retention is actually higher among low-income students” at Richmond.

BizEd

NANCY BAGRANOFF, dean of the Robins School of Business, wrote about the benefits of establishing a dean's book club in *BizEd*, a collegiate business education magazine. “It has the potential to influence organizational culture, help faculty to become better at their craft, and impact student learning,” she wrote. “Plus, as we've found, it's a lot of fun.”

Richmond Times-Dispatch

Richmond Times-Dispatch published a Q&A in June with new Arts and Sciences Dean **PATRICE RANKINE** in which he discussed his academic background, his personal interests, and his 16-year-old dog. “Because he's a more aggressive breed, I named him Gandhi to cultivate quietude,” he said. “It worked.”

OLD WORLD



Art of craft brewing

With the craft beer industry booming in the Richmond region, the School of Professional and Continuing Studies is launching a new beer brewer professional certificate program. The first class will begin in October.

The program “has helped spotlight the growing needs of our local brewing community,” said Robert William Faithful V of The Answer Brewpub, one of the program’s 12 regional partners. “The program speaks not only to the accelerated growth in our brewing community, but, in a broader sense, craft brewing is here to stay.”

ACCESS

Small scholarships, big impact

The University is participating in a new scholarship program, Raise.me, that awards small amounts of scholarship funding throughout a student’s high school studies. For example, students might earn \$200 for taking three or more years of science courses or \$500 for attending Boys State or Girls State.

Most scholarships and grants are awarded by colleges at the end of high school, after a student has already applied to and been accepted, or not, by a college. That’s often too late to impact a student’s college ambitions or choices. The Raise.me model allows students to track specific goals throughout high school, helping them become more competitive college applicants and more successful college students.

“This new program fits in perfectly with Richmond’s commitment to access, inclusivity, and affordability,” said Gil J. Villanueva, dean of admission. “We look forward to working with Raise.me to impact the lives of many young Americans throughout our nation.”



A CLOSER LOOK

See Sharma’s photos, videos, and observations on her blog at mobile-warming.tumblr.com. More than 600 students like Sharma received \$2.2 million of UR Summer Fellowship funding to support their research programs and internships in 2016. For more information about the program and ways to support it, go to ursf.richmond.edu.

RESEARCH



Photograph by Nidhi Sharma, '18

BIRDS OF PREY

Vultures sitting on dead trees along a trail, one of the many sights Sharma captured on her blog.

Soak it in

This summer, Nidhi Sharma, '18, found herself wading in shallow water of the Florida Keys collecting samples for research on the role of sponges in marine ecosystems.

As she and her classmates in Malcolm Hill’s biology lab focused on what sponges inhale from and exhale back to the environment, Sharma also took note of the water temperature and photographed trees bleached by saltwater, both possible indications of climate change.

“I was moved by the fact that many of the sponges we worked on were being impacted by climate change,” she said.

Conversations with Hill allowed her to see this politically charged topic from a different perspective.

“For Malcolm, who has made sponges his life’s work, climate change is personal,” she said. “Nature is fading away, and people aren’t paying attention to it, and soon it will be too late.”

Hill encouraged her to share the

science, so she created a blog with photographs, videos, and interviews based on conversations with “scientists, park rangers, fishermen, random strangers,” she said.

Some of their responses surprised her. “I wasn’t looking for a specific point of view; these people are so close to the ocean, and they’re living one foot off the ground,” she said. Climate change will impact them deeply “if we continue down this path,” she added, “but a lot of them don’t believe in it or are in denial.”

While she’s not setting out to argue with anyone about the science or impact of climate change, Sharma hopes her work can help educate.

“Science can seem like this cold, methodical, distant thing, but it’s so fresh, vibrant, and new,” she said.

“One of the reasons I’m doing this blog is to make science more accessible, exciting, and fun, something people want to read about.”

LEADERSHIP



WESTHAMPTON COLLEGE Mia Reinoso Genoni joined the University of Richmond community as the new dean of Westhampton College and associate dean in the School of Arts and Sciences. Her appointment took effect July 1.

Genoni comes to Richmond from Yale University, where she was dean of Berkeley College, advised students in academic and student-life matters, taught in the humanities and history of art departments, and served last year as director of undergraduate housing.



GROWING NUMBERS

As we went to press, international students were still registering for the 2016–17 host family program. If history is any guide, families will likely host more than 100 students this year.

Year founded 1987

Student participants since 2000 1200+

Students hosted in 2015–16 109

Families hosting students in 2015–16 57

Countries represented by students hosted 34



Photograph by Gordon Schmidt

FAMILY REUNION Ask students and alumni what they value most from their years at the University, and relationships will be near the top of the list. For 27 who came as international students, that means Becky Trader.

“Without her we would all be in very different places, no doubt,” said Leila Remaili, a technology expert who came to Richmond from Algeria for a year of graduate work and joined Becky Trader’s “family.” Their relationship has lasted more than 20 years.

Trader came to her role as host, parent, teacher, and friend of Richmond’s international students by marriage. Her late husband, Edwin, was a Spider, Class of 1960. In 1994, they attended a meeting for prospective hosts for international students.

“We didn’t have birth children, and we thought, ‘Why don’t we give this a try?’” she said.

At the meeting, they became concerned that the handful of African and Caribbean students might be harder to place — “some people didn’t think they would fit into their situations,” she recalled — so she and Edwin invited them in.

In the early years, they had students from Trinidad and Ghana. Those students recommended UR and the Traders to others, and the Traders’ international family grew.

Edwin Trader died in 1996, but Becky Trader continued hosting, with the students helping heal her loss. That year, she established the J. Edwin Trader Fund to enable UR’s international students to attend events of cultural, literary, musical, artistic, and historic interest. Since then, she has welcomed students from the Bahamas, Swaziland, Ivory Coast, Europe, and Japan.

“She has been a part of every major milestone of my life, giving sound advice, cheering me on, and showing her support or being a shoulder to cry on,” said Andrea Monique October, ’01, who came from the Bahamas and lives with her husband and daughter in Williamsburg. “She has truly shown me the meaning of unconditional love.”

The University pairs international students with alumni, faculty, and staff as hosts, said Michele Cox with the Office of International Education. The students live on campus but interact with their hosts regularly, doing things such as shopping, dining out, and going to sports, cultural events, and wherever their shared interests bring them. Last year, more than 100 students participated.

There are many great stories, Cox said, but few “rock stars” like Becky Trader.

Last fall, after realizing Trader’s 75th birthday was approaching, her students planned a surprise reunion to celebrate.

Marybe Assouan, ’05, a senior manager in tax practice with Ernst & Young who lives in Richmond and came here from the Ivory Coast, played a lead role in the planning.

Assouan lost her mother in a car crash that also seriously injured her a year and a half before she came to UR. Her father died while she was a student.

“I still get a little teary-eyed when I think how she took care of me,” she said, referring to Trader.

The support runs both ways. Trader recalls traveling to Nashville for her mother’s 90th birthday party with Assouan and soon after returning for her mother’s funeral.

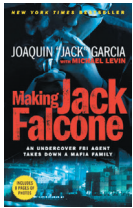
“Marybe was there for me,” Trader said. “We are family now.”

The birthday party in November was the highlight of the year, Remaili said. Trader’s students and their children — her “grandchildren” — surprised her.

“When they opened the door, the kids ran and jumped into my arms,” Trader said. “I had absolutely no idea.”

The international students Trader hosted have gone on to become pediatricians, anesthesiologists, engineers, medical researchers, and educators.

“They have done so well,” she said. “This has been the joy of my life.”



READY-MADE FOR HOLLYWOOD?

Garcia told the story of his career, and particularly his two-and-a-half-year undercover investigation of Gambino crime family boss Greg DePalma, in his 2008 *New York Times* bestseller *Making Jack Falcone*.

During the investigation, Garcia posed as a hoodlum named Jack Falcone to earn DePalma's trust, eventually becoming his personal driver. DePalma later proposed Falcone for membership into the mafia. The investigation resulted in 32 arrests of high-ranking mobsters.

Garcia's story caught the attention of filmmaker Steven Soderbergh (*Ocean's Eleven*, *Traffic*, *The Knick*), who bought the rights to develop and pitch a TV series based on Garcia's career.



JOAQUIN "JOCKO" GARCIA, R'75, (above, third from left) has lived many lives: Cuban refugee, Spider football lineman, and American public servant. During his 26-year career in the FBI, he worked more than 100 undercover operations that resulted in convictions of drug traffickers, corrupt public officials, terrorists, and mobsters, including Gambino crime family captain Greg DePalma.

MY CHILDHOOD

My father was an official in the Batista regime. We lived very well, but then Castro took over in 1959, and things began to change.

One night, my father kissed us good-night and said he'd be gone for a couple of days. We later found out that the FBI attaché office in Havana helped him escape because he was in danger. It was a year before we were all reunited in the U.S.

MY PARENTS

We first lived in New York City in a six-story walk-up in Washington Heights. I remember my father saying, "This is our new country, and we will learn to become part of it." I worked very hard



to learn English and fit in.

We came here with nothing, but my mother constantly said, "It's not a shame to be poor; it's a shame to live like a slob." We would clean the floors on our hands and knees with Ivory soap. The house was sparsely furnished, but it was always clean.

MY RICHMOND DAYS

How could you not love Richmond? It's a beautiful

place. For me, more important were the friendships, the brotherhood of teammates that to this day I talk to and see on a regular basis.

But when I was in college, I was just enjoying the college

tipped shoes, clean-cut, and all looked like FBI agents.

I spoke Spanish and began working narcotics. I started looking like a dope dealer with hair down to my shoulders, a goatee, and an earring. Because I walked the walk and talked the talk, I became an asset on the streets.

MY EDGE

I learned from some great guys in the FBI to prepare myself for undercover work. You can't wing it.

There are no second takes, like in the movies. You've got one shot, and you have to make it work or you're dead.

I was blessed to have an FBI team that I trusted 100 percent. They watched my back. Even though the

glory goes to an undercover, it really is a team effort, just like in football. There are stars, but it's the whole team that makes it what it is.

MY ADRENALINE RUSH

There's no better feeling than sitting in front of a bad guy toasting a deal; lifting your glass up and your hand is not shaking; and looking him in the eyes and thinking, "You're believing what I'm telling you. And you're gonna go to jail."

OUR MAFIA ROMANCE

The only reason I got the fanfare, was on *60 Minutes*, and made *New York* newspaper headlines is because of the media's fascination with the mafia.

I've taken down dealers with tons of

cocaine, multi-kilos of heroin, and it never made the newspaper. But you down one wise guy, and you've got front page for a week. It really blows my mind because the drug cartels are much more dangerous; they make more money, and they're ruthless.

MY FAMILY

I say a million times over that I owe my success to my wife because she was very supportive. Her father was an NYC detective, so she understood the life.

Our daughter was born in 2000, and I started to miss holidays and special occasions with her.

I used to carry multiple phones, and she would hear me use all these different names. One time she asked, "Daddy, what is your name?" I said, "As long as I'm here, you'll always know me as daddy. Just call me daddy, sweetheart."

They are the reason that I decided to pack it in. I left the bureau in 2006 to spend more time with my family.

MY NEW WORK

I witnessed a lot of animal abuse when I was undercover. I went to several cock-fights and dog fights. They were brutal. I've started working with Guardians of Rescue, an animal rights and welfare organization, helping with investigations. Somebody has to be the voice for our four-legged friends.



Photographs courtesy Joaquin Garcia

QUOTATION

“The point of trade, far more than wealth creation, is to expand the moral imagination on both sides of the transaction.”

JONATHAN B. WIGHT, professor of economics and international studies, in a July 2 op-ed in the *Richmond Times-Dispatch* about a trip he and nine colleagues, including the president and the provost, took to Cuba in June to explore potential academic relationships for Richmond faculty and students.

ARTS



TICKET, PLEASE

Alana Wiljanen, already familiar with the stage, worked back-of-house during a summer apprenticeship.

Stage direction

Alana Wiljanen, '17, has already spent years developing her craft as a performer, particularly of Shakespeare's plays. Her training and performances — *Midsummer's* Puck was one favorite role — have brought her to stages throughout the D.C. area and to Canada and Spain, among other places.

But where she hadn't spent much time was in the back of the house, the place where budgets are decided, marketing plans devised, and tickets sold.

Until this summer. During an apprenticeship with Richmond's Firehouse Theatre, she did marketing research, analyzed ticket agencies, and even helped build the set for its production of *American Idiot* — all tasks focused on increasing her understanding of what happens offstage to make a theater company run.

“I want to be the type of artist who is aware of the entire system,” she

said on a hot June afternoon in the theater's foyer. “If I want to build my own company in a few years, I feel like I should know how a company is run, successfully or unsuccessfully, in order to make that happen.”

The creative side of the theater still suits her best, she said, but her summer experience with administration will make her a savvy and more valuable creative artist.

“I want to work in a theater, but I don't want to pigeonhole myself,” she said. “People will say, ‘What are you going to do? Are you going to be a performer? A director?’ I want to be a theater artist, and I'll see what opportunities present themselves. I don't want to say I'll be one thing. I have a skill set, and I can develop that within the theater. The world of the theater got bigger and more clear.”



UPCOMING

Wiljanen will develop her creative talents by leading a show in the Modlin Center this spring. As part of her thesis, she will develop and direct an as-yet-unnamed work that explores the relationship between the historical Macbeth and Shakespeare's version of him, “two very different stories,” she said.

BUSINESS



London calling?

The NFL has been playing regular-season games in the U.K. since 2007, so it's no surprise that most observers and even some NFL owners say that the next NFL franchise to relocate may hop the pond and settle in London.

Such a move would introduce a host of novel legal, tax, and logistical issues for the NFL, a subject 2015 Richmond Law graduate Travis Ward tackled in independent research. In doing so, he not only satisfied his curiosity but also landed a job with the league.

Continuing work that began in a sports law class, Ward researched U.K. — and, in those pre-Brexit days, European Union — labor and employment laws, immigration requirements, and tax codes. He also identified necessary revisions to the NFL's Collective Bargaining Agreement and crafted a season schedule that involved fewer air miles than six NFL teams currently travel.

In the process, he caught the league's eye and landed a position as coordinator of labor policy and league affairs.

“I absolutely love my job,” he said. “I get up every day and look forward to going to work.”

UR IN RVA

Good business

Richmond's Metropolitan Business League awarded the University its 2016 Social Vision Award. The award recognized the University's its supplier diversity initiative and its partnerships with multiple regional chambers of commerce and other business councils and associations. The supplier diversity initiative, designed to reflect UR's commitment to a diverse and inclusive campus community, provides support for certified women- and minority-owned businesses.

EVENTS



Cuban Nights

10.05 Alice Jepson Theatre The Havana Cuba All-Stars bring their take on traditional Cuban *Son* to campus, with a preshow discussion led by trumpeter and UR music professor Mike Davison. modlin.richmond.edu

Homecoming

10.14-16 Not that you need a reason for coming home, but here are a few, just in case: Spiders vs. Villanova Wildcats football, pregame tailgate and picnic, Queally Center dedication, golfing, and your fellow Spiders. www.richmond.edu/homecoming



Down them Dukes

11.05 Robins Stadium Preseason No. 4 Spiders take on preseason No. 14 James Madison University in a game that promises to have postseason implications. When game times were announced in June, this is the home game every Spider fan circled. richmondspiders.com

Race

11.17-20 Alice Jepson Theatre Chuck Mike, associate professor of theater, directs David Mamet's provocative tale of sex, guilt, and bold accusations. modlin.richmond.edu



After the vote

11.10 Washington and Lee President Ken Ruscio, an expert in politics and leadership, moderates a panel on governing after the votes are cast. jepson.richmond.edu

'Tis the season

12.08 The UR Chapel Guild's Christmas House Tour returns. This year's edition includes four homes; tickets on sale in October. chaplaincy.richmond.edu

Show your #SpiderPride

12.31 At midnight, the IRS turns the page on another tax year. Support Spiders here today with a gift to the annual fund. giving.richmond.edu

Leadership

1.24 Isabel Wilkerson, author of *The Warmth of Other Suns*, speaks about the Great Migration as part of the 2016-17 Jepson Leadership Forum series. jepson.richmond.edu

YOUNG WANDERER
Seeley studied at Brown for her B.A. and received her doctorate in history from New York University in 2014 before migrating south to Richmond.

QUOTATION

“Strong families make strong communities, which build a strong nation.”

TIM HIGHTOWER, '08, speaking with children at the Henrico, Va., Police Athletic League's 2016 summer camp. He is a running back with the New Orleans Saints.

HISTORY



“A NEW MAP OF THE UNITED STATES”
Forced migration in the early American republic reflected ideas about citizenship.

Who's in, who's out

Historians often refer to the years following the Revolutionary War as “the critical period.”

“It's such an exciting and important period in our history, and it still has repercussions today,” said Samantha Seeley, an assistant professor of history who focuses her research on that era. “Government and politics, and even who was considered a citizen, were still up in the air.”

Seeley is writing her first book about this period, focusing on forced migration in the early U.S. republic. Her working title is *Race and Removal in the Early American Republic*.

“I argue that controlling people's movements was central to the question of who was considered to be free and who was considered a citizen,” she said.

She's focusing on migrants pushed beyond the boundaries of individual states, or the nation itself, in the period between the end of the American Revolution and the 1820s. An 1806 Virginia law, for example, tried to exile newly freed blacks from the commonwealth within a year of their emancipation. In the same period, American

migrants and Native Americans fought over land rights in the Northwest Territory.

United States officials pursued forced migration because the people affected “were considered to fall outside the category of citizen,” she said.

Access to legal records and legislative documents at the Library of Virginia helped her with the Virginia section of her research, but studying the Northwest Territory conflict from Virginia has been more challenging; relatively few records are digitized.

With the help of two research fellowships — from the Newberry Library in Chicago and Yale University's Gilder Lehrman Center for the Study of Slavery, Resistance, and Abolition — Seeley will spend this fall and spring traveling to Chicago and Yale, where she'll have access to the primary documents necessary for her research.

“These laws and treaties were the testing grounds for later removal projects in the antebellum U.S.,” she said. “Freedom of movement [for American citizens] included the power to remain in place.”



OLD AND FAITHFUL *The National Park Service turned 100 in August. For a century, it has conserved our natural heritage, human history, and culture for the benefit of future generations. Laura Feller, W'74, now retired, was an NPS historian for more than 30 years, and her love for the parks grew throughout her career. She shares a few things you might not know about our National Park Service.*

Yes, some NPS parks are grand, wild landscapes

There's Alaska's Wrangell-St. Elias National Park and Preserve, with its 13,170,000 acres of mountains, glaciers, tundra, and coastline. And the natural magnificence

of Yellowstone, Yosemite, and the Grand Canyon pack a big wallop in our national psyche.

But many are small, historic sites

Many national parks were set aside because of their cultural and historic

meaning. Among the 413 parks are places like the 5-acre Thomas Cole National Historic Site, home and studio of the Hudson River School painter.

NPS isn't even just national parks

The National Park Service is part of a web of partnerships for preservation and conservation that includes a national system of wild and scenic rivers, a national trails system, National Heritage Areas, the

National Register of Historic Places, and the National Historic Landmarks Program.

Managed in partnership with state, local, and tribal governments, National Register listings and National Historic

Landmark designations document and recognize historic and archaeological sites, buildings, and landscapes across the country, whether in public or private hands.

There were national parks before there was an NPS

Before Congress established the National Park Service in 1916 to be the national parks' steward, the federal government had already begun setting aside land for preservation.

Abraham Lincoln signed a law in 1864 giving Yosemite Valley and the Mariposa Big Tree Grove to California for park purposes, and Congress created Yellowstone National Park in 1872.

Before 1916, the U.S. Army administered a number of national parks. At Yosemite and Sequoia, some 500 Buffalo Soldiers from the Army's African-American regiments were park guardians, fighting fires, poachers, and timber thieves and managing road- and trail-building.

NPS is always evolving

Wars and presidents are major themes in national parks, but

the system increasingly embraces a broader sweep of our shared histories.

For example, multiple parks created in the last half-century commemorate the modern civil rights movement, like Little Rock Central High School National Historic Site in Arkansas; the Martin Luther King Jr. National Historic Site in Atlanta; and the Selma to Montgomery National Historic Trail.

Other parks illuminate the necessity of that civil rights movement, like the small plantation in central Virginia where Booker T. Washington was born into slavery, the plantations at Cane River Creole National Historical Park, and Kingsley Plantation at Timucuan Ecological and Historic Preserve.

In this year of the musical *Hamilton*, it's worth noting that four parks have connections to our first secretary of the treasury: Hamilton Grange in New York City; the Yorktown battlefield; Paterson Great Falls National Historical Park in New Jersey; and Independence National Historical Park in Philadelphia.



NPS: NATIONAL PARK SPIDERS?

Todd Lookingbill, chair of the Department of Geography and the Environment, has a long history of working with the National Park Service. He's on a mission to show Spiders in every park. Check out the map at <http://bit.ly/SpidersinParks>. Then, wear your Spider gear to a park and submit your photo for the gallery via magazine@richmond.edu.



SPORTS

DEPT. OF TIMELY UPDATES



HOW 'BOUT THEM SPIDERS?

"I think there's no doubt we were the better team today," Coach Danny Rocco told Spider TV after the win.

That was fun

As we went to press, Spider football got their most-anticipated season in years under way in style, beating the University of Virginia 37-20 in Charlottesville. It was their third-ever win against the Cavaliers and their first since 1946.

The win propelled the Spiders to the No. 2 ranking in both the STATS FCS and Coaches polls. The team received 21 first-place votes in the STATS poll.

Five-time defending national champion North Dakota State retained its top spot in both polls.

The win was convincing. The offense rolled up 524 total yards, while the defense forced four turnovers and held Virginia to 38 rushing yards.

All signs point to Robins Stadium being a rocking place this fall. Updates and ticket information are available at richmondspiders.com.

RUNDOWN



First-ever NCAA appearance

Spider women's golf participated in the first-ever NCAA regional in the program's 13-year history. The Spiders earned the Patriot League's automatic bid by winning the conference championship, beating reigning champion Boston College by six strokes.

The team finished 17th in the Stanford regional. Freshman Sophie DiPetrillo finished as the team's top scorer, shooting 77 (+6) in the final round to finish with a tournament score of +17, placing 67th overall.

Four Spiders also made the Patriot League's Academic Honor Roll announced in June.

Big picture

This summer, Keith Gill, director of athletics, published a review of Richmond's athletic programs. The report's name, "A Great Year for the Spiders," was apt. In 2015-16:

- Richmond teams brought home four conference trophies
- Seven teams went to the postseason
- Eight teams finished in the top two in their conferences
- Six coaches were their conference coach of the year

For the first time, Richmond finished in the top 25 in the Capital One Cup men's standings, ahead of Notre Dame, Penn State, USC, Michigan State, LSU, and many other landmark collegiate athletic programs.

Student-athletes were also successful in the classroom. Sixty-four percent of the nearly 350 student-athletes earned a 3.0 or better GPA, the highest in percentage in school history. Forty student-athletes have studied abroad, spanning six continents.

Annual fund contributions to Spider Club were up more than 12 percent over 2014-15, and men's basketball average home attendance was 15th nationally among schools outside the power conferences.

In the 15 years since Richmond joined the Atlantic 10, 12 different programs have won a total of 48 conference championships.



UNFINISHED BUSINESS

"To accomplish something that hadn't been done in 70 years is pretty cool," said redshirt junior quarterback Kyle Lauletta, who picked up CAA Offensive Player of the Week honors after the game.

"But, again, it won't mean anything if we don't stay focused on the task at hand. We have big goals this year, and the only way we accomplish them is to stay focused."

Photographs by Keith Lucas



Photograph by Gordon Schmidt

A SHOT AT REDEMPTION Distance runner Tim Gruber, '16, left some unfinished business when an injury sidelined him his senior year. This fall, he's combining graduate school with his last year of athletic eligibility to chase a championship.

Second chances don't come often, but cross-country runner Tim Gruber, '16, has one that he plans to make the most of this fall.

The first chance, the one that slipped through his grasp, came last year, his senior season. He began fall 2015 in the best shape of his running career and, early in the season, averaged less than five minutes per mile in the 5K at the 2015 Spider Alumni Open, pacing his team to a second-place finish. Two weeks later, he placed eighth overall in the highly competitive Iona College Meet of Champions.

Results like that had him thinking he had a legitimate shot at winning the individual A-10 title. Then a stress fracture sidelined him.

"It obviously wrecked my season but also affected my academics and extracurricular involvements," he said. "I wanted to come back and get some closure with running. I wanted to rewrite the last chapter and make it a good one."

His redshirt freshman year gave him eligibility to come back. His interest in teaching gave him the academic direction.

He began the School of Professional and Continuing Studies' teacher licensure program this fall. He works with kindergartners at St. Christopher's School near campus and plans to teach English or history, possibly both.

"As you get through college and get older, you realize the beauty of a liberal arts education," he said. "I left college with more questions than I arrived with."

Such questions fit with the nature of his admittedly restless personality. As a child, he rarely sat still, he said. Distance running, he said, focuses his mind unlike anything else.

"Races and workouts are unique moments when I can singularly focus on the task at hand, pushing my body as hard

as I can," he said. "Usually I'll have a song lyric to motivate me or keep my mind relaxed — anything to push my body farther."

The patience he struggled with as a child shows up in his running style.

"I am the guy who will make a move from the gun," he said. "If the pace is dawdling in the first 800 meters, I can't stand it. I can't sit back and have a slow race."

"Pretty fearless" is how coach Steve Taylor describes Gruber.

That applies in competition, practice, and even the offseason, he said. By way of example, Taylor cited two summer 2016 races. On a whim after a call from a buddy, Gruber was a last-minute entry in the USATF Mountain Running Championship in New Hampshire July 3. The 10K includes a grueling, kilometer-long climb up a trail with a 40 percent grade.

Gruber not only finished fourth in the collegiate field, but he got up the next morning to run the L.L. Bean Fourth of July 10K in Maine and won it over nearly 1,200 competitors.

That combination of spirit and talent "is a fun thing to be around as a coach," Taylor said. "I really love seeing that in an athlete." He said that this fall, Gruber will bring leadership and a strong work ethic to a team introducing five freshman runners.

The return is a sweet homecoming for Gruber, though he said it's different as a graduate student with a job and without some close friends who graduated. Because Gruber's father worked on campus, he grew up riding his bike and going for runs around the lake. His undergraduate years went by too quickly, he said.

"I definitely wasn't ready to graduate and leave Richmond," he said. "To be back here is very comforting and very exciting. I hope this fall I can have some finality and closure. Ideally, it would be great to come back and win an A-10 title with the team."



THE CHAMP IS HERE

Two Spiders have won the Atlantic 10's individual men's cross-country championship. Four have finished among the top five, some twice:

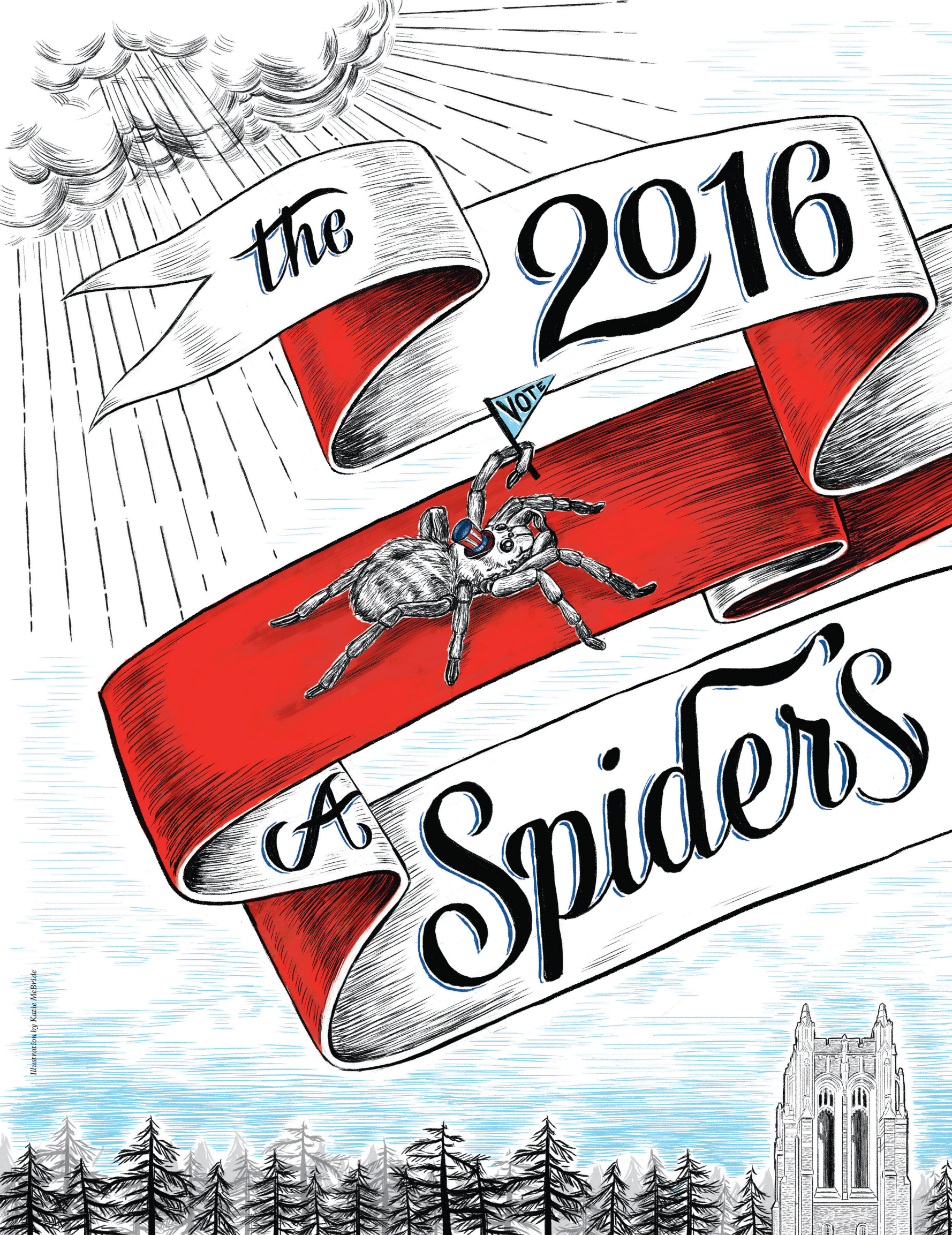
John Ciccarelli, '06
(champion in 2004;
3rd in 2005)

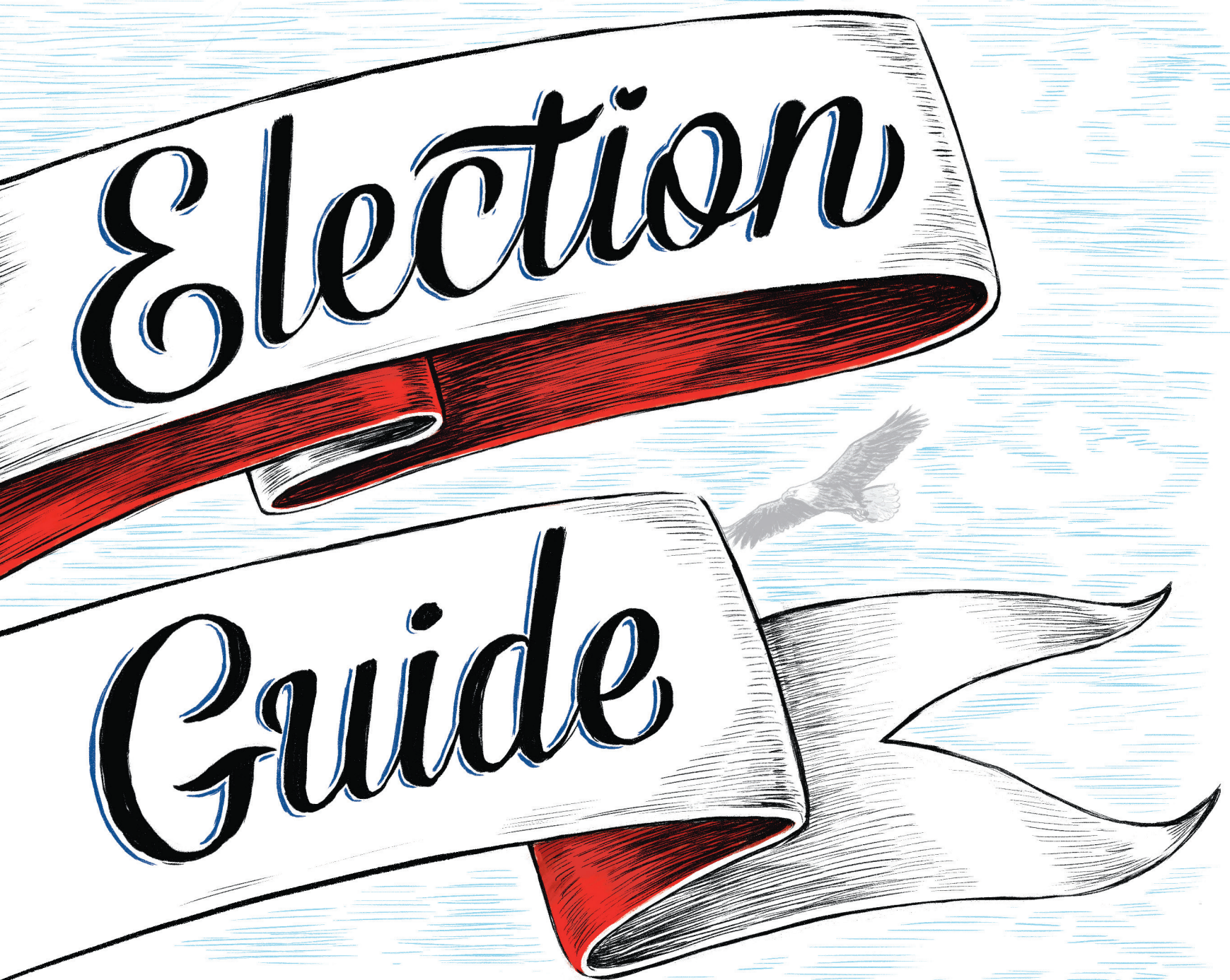
Jonathan Molz, '08
(3rd in 2007)

Andrew Benford, '11
(4th in 2008,
champion in 2010)

Matt Llano, '11
(2nd in 2008;
3rd in 2010)

The cross-country team has seven top-five A-10 finishes since 2001, including the 2010 team championship.





ILLUSTRATIONS BY ROBERT MEGANCK AND KATIE MCBRIDE

IN THE THROES OF ONE OF THE MOST UNUSUAL and contentious presidential elections in recent memory, it makes sense to take a step back and take the long view.

That's what we've tried to do in this package, to get out of the heat of the moment, away from the spikes and dips of the opinion polls and the outrage of the moment. We're not parsing candidates, trying to figure out why this one or that one, what we can say to make you agree, or how loudly we can shout at you when you don't.

Frankly, we're tired of shouting. Instead, we sought out perspective. Is this really the worst it's been? How did *The Collegian* cover the 1932 election? How does losing an election feel? How can we move on?

Congratulations if your candidate wins on election night in November. Hang in there if he or she doesn't. No matter what you think of the candidates, chances are our republic has already seen better and endured worse. Democracy is famously messy, "the worst form of government except all those other forms that have been tried," as Winston Churchill said.

If that's cold comfort, the advice his government offered for enduring a bombardment might serve you better: "Keep calm and carry on."

Stories and interviews by Paul Brockwell Jr., Kim Catley, Catherine Amos Cribbs, '07, and Matthew Dewald



QUOTATION

“The state and the nation can make no greater contribution than to provide education to the full capacity of the individual.”

GEN. DWIGHT D. EISENHOWER, H'46, accepting an honorary Doctor of Laws degree presented by Douglas Southall Freeman, R1904, in Cannon Memorial Chapel March 28, 1946. Eisenhower was elected president in 1952.

★ NOT A DIME'S WORTH OF DIFFERENCE WHO WINS? ★

We've been talking about the 2016 presidential election since Beyoncé's dying lip-synced note at Barack Obama's 2012 inauguration. We've been casting votes since the Iowa caucuses in February. Various media estimate that this election will cost anywhere between \$5 billion and \$10 billion. Our social media feeds are full of political bickering.

Is who gets elected really this important? After all, we pay the president less than an NFL rookie's guaranteed minimum salary. (Admittedly, the presidential perks are far better.)

We asked George R. Goethals, a professor in the Jepson School of Leadership Studies who studies presidential leadership.

“Absolutely,” he said. “The question just boggles my mind, actually.”

Who the president is makes a big difference in what we as a nation do, he said. He cited Franklin Delano Roosevelt's ability to unite the country during the Great Depression and World War II. He contrasted Abraham Lincoln with his immediate predecessors, Franklin Pierce and James Buchanan, often considered by historians two of our very worst presidents.

“Franklin Pierce was rolled by Stephen Douglas and other senators to go along with Kansas-Nebraska Act, which was a disaster,” Goethals said. “Another president might not have been so malleable. There are all kind of questions about the role James Buchanan played in facilitating the Dred Scott decision,” a case that historians frequently cite as the Supreme Court's worst decision.

Still, a president “isn't a god or dictator,” Goethals said. Checks and bal-

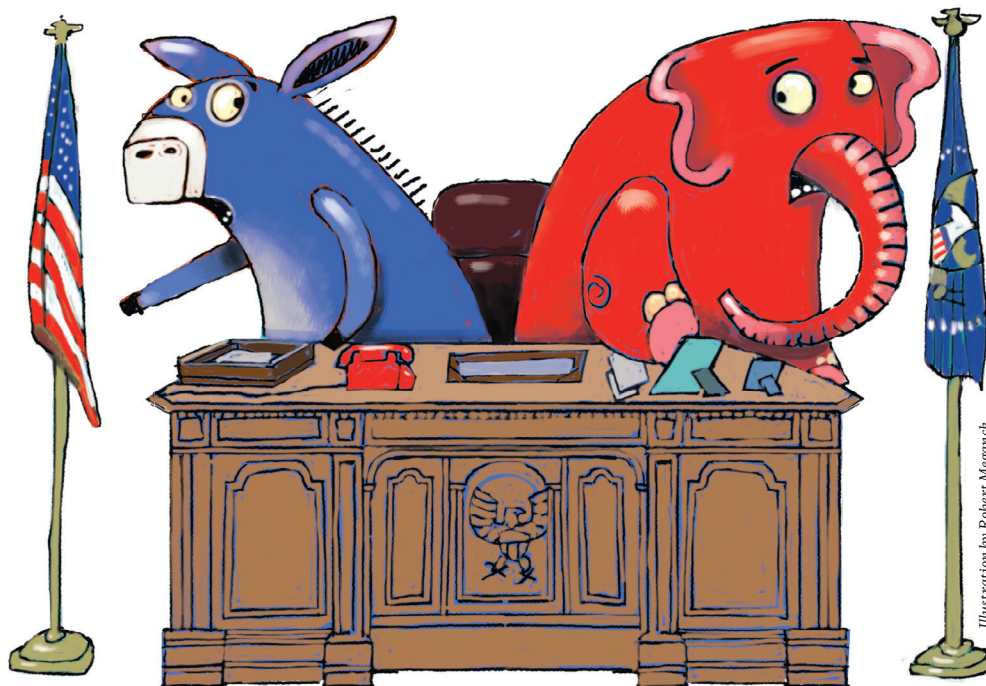


Illustration by Robert Megawick

ances limit presidential power, and the country has persisted despite poor presidents. Still, “the country will be different depending on who is the next president. Any big change in social welfare programs, for example, is going to affect a lot of people.”

All true, agreed Dan Palazzolo in political science, who describes the outcome of a presidential election as “extremely important.” Presidents are expected to lead on issues of policy. In times of crisis and war, who sits in the Oval Office is especially critical, he said.

But it has not always been so, he added.

“For most of the 19th century — outside of the Civil War, until Teddy Roosevelt gets in and starts talking about a greater role for national government — you don't even think about the presidency being powerful.”

But times have changed.

“The presidency has become more powerful as federal government has taken on a bigger role in our lives,” he said. “That's what's made the presidency more powerful and more important: the expansion of the federal government.”

In 1968, George Wallace launched a third-party presidential bid based on a segregationist platform that opposed federal civil rights laws and court decisions in the name of states' rights. “There's not a dime's worth of difference between the Republicans and Democrats,” he was fond of saying, referring to Richard Nixon and Hubert Humphrey.

Was he right? Did it not matter who won? Wallace himself took 46 electoral votes and five states. Imagine how different the country would be today if he had won even more.

★ THE SPIDER VOTE, AS SEEN THROUGH A CENTURY OF *THE COLLEGIAN* ★

In 1916, during its third year of publication, *The Collegian* organized its first-ever straw vote, acknowledging how “national politics has been discussed so often and vociferously here on the campus.” A tiny column — only 38 words — on the second page showed Woodrow Wilson winning with 196 votes to Charles Evans Hughes’ 38, Allan Benson’s four, and a single vote for Prohibition Party candidate James Hanley.

The Collegian continued to organize straw votes for several decades. Sometimes student votes matched the national outcome, and other times they broke from the rest of the voting population, such as when Richard Nixon defeated John F. Kennedy in a 1960 mock election. In 1932, reporters explored demographic research with a ballot asking for college affiliation and home state, imploring students that “it is imperative that this ballot be filled out in full.”

While these polls engaged a population of students — at a time when most were preparing to cast their first vote — in the political process, a look back through the archives of *The Collegian* offers something more. Scanning clips, polls, advertisements, and opinions offers a glimpse into the evolving values and priorities of a small community.

Two columns over from the results of that first straw poll, a “hip-pocket essay” warned about the dangers of women’s suffrage as the country barreled toward ratifying the 19th Amendment.

“Once she gets the vote,” the essay read, “billiard halls, cigar stores and buffets will be changed to pink tea resorts, gossip joints and poodle-dog rest rooms, and hubby will stay at home and take the baby and the woozy-eyed pup for an airing in the park. Those old time-worn, time-honored seats in Congress and Senate would be covered with vanity cases, crochet work and Laura Jean [Libbey].”

Four years later, when women were first universally

allowed to vote, an article on Page 5 recapped Westhampton College’s straw poll between Warren Harding and James Cox. It closed with a noticeably different tone: “The enthusiasm and intelligent arguments of the girls with regard to the election is definitely proving the success of suffrage.” (The results of the 1924 straw vote, however, congratulated both John Davis for his win over Calvin Coolidge, and Westhampton women for their voting prowess: “Attempting to disprove the theory that women do not know how to vote, only 16 ballots were mis-marked out of the 272 that were cast.”)

In the hundred years since *The Collegian* first tackled presidential politics, the scope of coverage has grown to include summaries of rallies and visits from candidates and representatives and comparisons of party platforms, but also a lasting sense of single moments in time, such as the Commons the night Barack Obama was elected.

“More than 150 elated students in Tyler Haynes Commons embraced, shouted, and cried at 11 p.m., when the polls closed on the West Coast and TV networks announced that Barack Obama would be the 44th president of the United States, the first black American to win the office.”

GIRLS CHOOSE DAVIS IN STRAW BALLOTING

Westhampton College observed election day by having a “straw vote” in chapel. The results seemed not to tally with the national official records, however. A total of 272 ballots were received, and of them 195 voted for Davis, 44 for Coolidge, 17 for La Follette.

Attempting to disprove the theory that women do not know how to vote, only 16 ballots were mismarked out of the 272 that were cast.



BROAD STRIPES, BRIGHT STARS, BIZARRE ELECTIONS:

Six takeaways from talking to international students about American elections

If you think this election season is bizarre, imagine how it looks through the eyes of international students.

We sat down with eight of them — some studying for four years and others here for just a year as exchange students — in the late spring and early summer, before the parties’ conventions. We asked them about the differences between their understanding of American politics and what they’ve learned as they see it up close for the first time.

Some of what they told us was hard to hear, and much surprised us. A two-party system without a middle? Crazy. Extremely polarized parties? Welcome to normal life in Europe. Here are the recurring themes that rose to the surface:

1. OUR PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION PROCESS IS BAFFLING.

Lisa Groeticke, an exchange student and dual American and German citizen:

I thought it was much more direct, like you just vote for someone and you see who gets voted for. There are so many more steps before that . . . For us, it’s an election, and then it’s over. But here it’s years.



Marcin Jerzewski, ’18, from Poland: [The primaries] are not a form of executing popular vote. It’s not part of the political process in the U.S. Constitution. It constitutes the core of politics, but officially it is not formalized. I think this is extremely interesting.

Clément Verde, from France: We don’t have political commercials. Absolutely not. It’s totally forbidden. No candidate is buying a [billboard] for a big picture of him; it doesn’t exist. People are not used to lawn signs. It would be really curious to do that.

★ YOU HAVE 20 MINUTES ★

Former Secretary of Defense Donald Rumsfeld famously offered this philosophical inquiry on the nature of knowledge:

There are known knowns; there are things we know we know. We also know there are known unknowns. That is to say, we know there are some things we do not know. But there are also unknown unknowns, the ones we don't know we don't know.

Got that? In the spirit of Rumsfeld's answer, we asked a collection of Spider experts to address the next president's knowns and unknowns with this question: You've got 20 minutes with the next president, whoever it is. Based on what you know, what are the most critical issues that he or she (and perhaps also we) should be focused on?

YOU CAN'T GET ANYWHERE IF YOU CAN'T GO ANYWHERE.

Keith Parker, GB'96, CEO of Metropolitan Atlanta Rapid Transit Authority, the nation's ninth-largest mass transit system

Adequate transportation — decent roads and transit systems combined with good school systems — is everyone's lifeline to good, healthy food, to health care, and to a path forward from poverty. We need infrastructure that is consistently good throughout the nation. From a mass transit perspective, that means having transportation available for everyone, from the luxury condo owner in midtown Atlanta to middle- and low-income citizens. If we don't look at this broadly, we'll continue to create winners and losers.

Right now, we win grants for the safest, most predictable projects. For spectacular success, we need to be willing to fail. In Silicon Valley, one of the badges of honor is the number of failures you had at different types of startups before succeeding. We need that mindset if we're going to solve these problems. For example, I think there's a chance that self-driving vehicles might be a valuable and cost-effective service in rural areas.

I'll be 50 years old this year, and I can't think of a time in my life when there's been such an anxious feeling at so many levels in our society. Too many people feel as if they're working really, really hard and not going anywhere. But I'm very optimistic that we're around the corner, in a good sense, and that a new entrepreneurial period could lift many, many folks.

[Editor's note: President Obama recently appointed Parker to the National Infrastructure Advisory Council, so he may have the next president's ear.]

PRESS THE RESET BUTTON IN THE WAR ON TERROR.

Sheila Carapico, professor of political science and international studies

It's time to completely rethink the so-called war on terror, says Sheila Carapico, an expert on the Middle East. It's not working. It may, in fact, be making things worse. It's put us on a perpetual war footing.

"The war on terror has become a kind of mantra," she says, "so neither the political establishment nor the media even think about what it means. Only a handful of members of Congress and some thoughtful military strategists join academic specialists in calling for a new perspective."

As Carapico sees it, we are 15 years into fighting a war against an elusive enemy that keeps fragmenting and morphing into something else. First, there was al-Qaeda and the Taliban, and now ISIS/ISIL and other groups are emerging as threats in the region — and increasingly in Europe. It's a long game of whack-a-mole against an evolving, splintering enemy.

And depending on how you see it, she says, we're adding fuel to fire and fire to fuel. American intervention in the region has provided a ready stream of recruiting fodder for radicalizing economically disadvantaged groups and deranged individuals.

Carapico would also connect these issues with climate change. The amount of military resources that we have stationed in the Persian Gulf region — decidedly not carbon-neutral — is another reason she says our strategy requires a big-picture rethink.

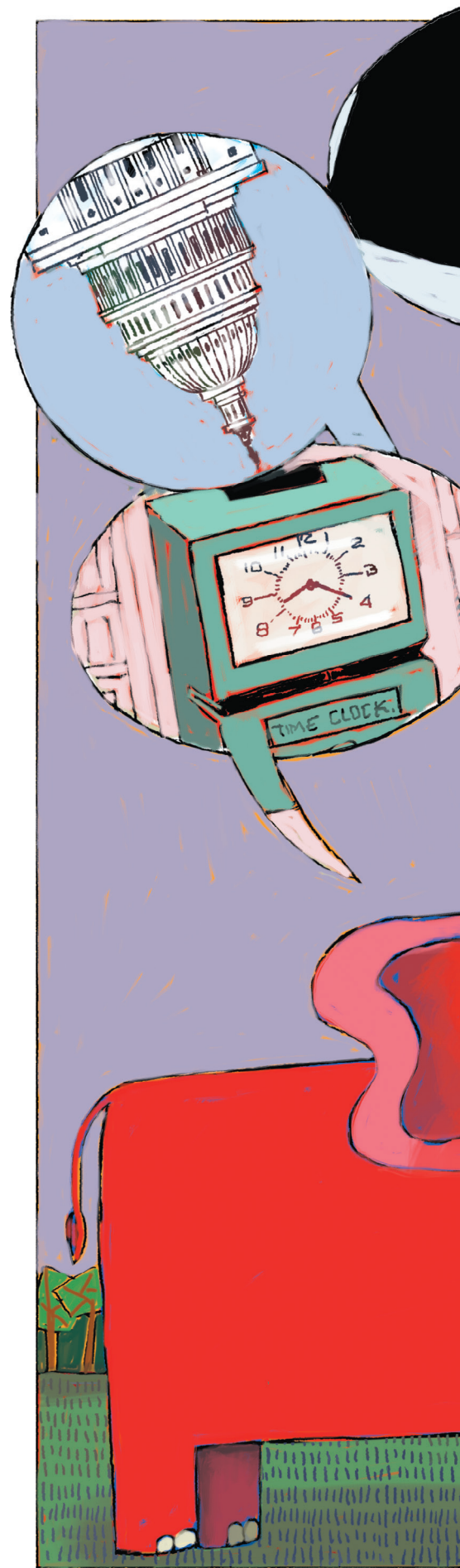




Illustration by Robert Meganck

Vladimira Dostalova, from the Czech Republic: I don't find it so democratic as everybody likes to say. A lot of voices are being lost somewhere. I really have this feeling that politics here is more for powerful people or rich people, and money definitely plays a role in politics much higher than politics in Europe.

George Katsiotis, '18, from Greece: It's a very long process that can be very time-consuming. When you don't have all the states voting at the same time [in primaries], they're reacting to each other. Trump gained a lot of momentum, but if all the primaries were at the same time, maybe you'd have a different outcome.



2. WE SHARE SOME COMMON FEARS.

Dostalova: [Because of immigrants], people became xenophobic, and politicians are reflecting these moods. ... You have society who is afraid of something, and they want an authority figure who will provide a quick and strong decision. They are afraid their conditions are going to be disrupted. We're all human beings. ... This isn't an American problem.

Jerzewski: I understand that this particular election is very special in the view of many Americans, but speaking from a perspective of a European, this extreme polarization is not particularly unusual. This visceral appeal has characterized elections in Europe for a while.

3. SOME CANDIDATES WORRY THEM MORE THAN OTHERS, PARTICULARLY DONALD TRUMP.

Selina (Seoyoung) Jang, from South Korea: The diplomatic relationship [between Korea and the United States] will be worse if Trump does what he says, but I don't think it would be possible realistically.



Xixi Ni, '16, from China: He represents the dark side of people in a way. ... If Trump is elected, I guess he's just a nationalist and opposes any kind of foreign people coming in.

YOU HAVE 20 MINUTES, cont.

UNLOCK OUR DEADLOCKED CONGRESS.

Don Forsyth, professor and Col. Leo K. & Gaylee Thorsness Endowed Chair in Ethical Leadership

The center isn't holding, particularly in Congress, where moderates are in increasingly short supply, says Don Forsyth, an expert on group dynamics. The new president's success will depend on successfully navigating between the mythical Scylla and Charybdis on Capitol Hill.

"Once groups schism and it turns into us versus them, it's really difficult to get everybody back on the same page," he says. "Certain things just don't work. Don't hope that by being together in the same place that it will help heal the rift. The research doesn't really support that. You can't simply hope that contact will lead to good things happening. Contact is good, but it usually has to be in the right circumstances. There have to be some shared goals that cannot be achieved unless the two sides work together."

But this tactic is easier said than done, he cautions.

"The negative psychological processes that cause us to exclude other groups — blaming, stereotyping, negatively characterizing behavior — that whole host of negative psychologies are really hard to cure, by the way," Forsyth says. "You don't think about them as individuals anymore. It's hard to resist that."

Finding an easy win is key.

"It doesn't even have to be an important

thing, but once a group starts to succeed, it will start to unify," Forsyth says. "The best way to create unity in a group is to have them succeed at something."

LET'S HAVE MORE HONEST CONVERSATIONS ABOUT THE ECONOMY AND RACE.

Julian Hayter, assistant professor of leadership studies

In the poetry of campaigning, the sky is the limit, but we haven't been having hard conversations about economic and social realities, says Julian Hayter, a historian.

The workforce has changed drastically. General Electric, once one of America's biggest tech employers, employed thousands of people in the mid-20th century. Today, our biggest tech industry player, Google, employs a few thousand. Politicians' nostalgia about American labor flies in the face of unprecedented breakthroughs and changes.

"We've got all these ideas about what the past was, and most of these ideas are based on mythologies, not reality," Hayter says. "Longstanding social issues are getting worse because we're not being realistic about the economic forces at play."

The next president must be forthright about this, he says: "These unskilled and low-skilled workers, quite frankly, are not going to find the types of

employment that politicians espouse."

These forces also expose America's long-standing racial divide, including in our higher education institutions, from which many people were purposefully excluded during the prosperity of the mid-20th century, he says.

"The struggle to make diversity meaningful is an American dilemma, and much of that struggle has to do with recognizing how we can atone for previous mistakes," he says. "It's a righteous cause to diversify a student body, but it's deeply immoral to do nothing to allow that diversification to thrive. It's a dynamic you see in the current country's understanding of race issues."

PRESERVE PUBLIC SUPPORT OF RESEARCH AND SCHOLARSHIP.

Jennifer Erkulwater, associate professor of political science

In order to act, we must understand that a given situation is a problem and worth correcting, says Jennifer Erkulwater. But the nature of a problem doesn't just appear out of a vacuum. It is a strategically constructed story that grows out of intentional inquiry, is communicated in a captivating way, and frames the scope and substance of the challenge we face.

In this election alone, for example, economic inequality has been a big piece of the campaign narrative on both sides, she says. Whether inequality is

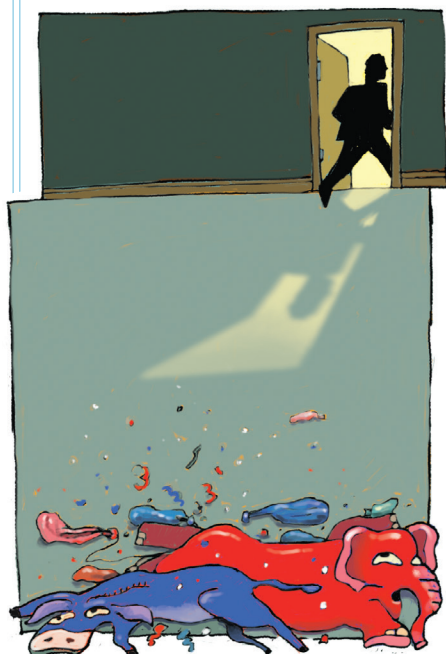


Illustration by Robert Meganck

★ THE LONESOME LOSER ★

For one of the candidates on election night, spotlights will fade and hopes dim as jubilant early celebrations and toasts wind down. No balloons or confetti will fall. Instead, a concession speech will find its place at a glum ballroom's podium. For one candidate, the most intense job application process in the free world will come to a sobering end.

How does that feel, exactly? A lighter version is a real and recent experience for Jeremy Adler, '15. Until March, he was a regional spokesperson for Marco Rubio, whose campaign for the GOP nomination abruptly ended when he failed to carry the primary in his home state, Florida.

"It's tough to look forward," Adler said. "You're working 16-hour days on average, barely seeing or talking to family and friends. You pour your heart, your mind, all your energy into something, and you're left with an empty feeling, a feeling of deep disappointment. It leaves you wanting more."

"All you can do," he added, "is hope that you're just as passionate about the next fight as you were about this one."

a problem, how unequal our society is, and whether Wall Street, trade deals, or immigration is to blame — these questions can be answered only by a society that invests in answering them.

“Public support of scholarship and creative activity must be preserved,” Erkulwater says. “Scholarly inquiry helps us see that what we experience isn’t isolated or necessarily natural or a given — that it could be different, and there are ways of changing the situation.”

Some of the funding now at risk, she says, pays for data collection that tracks income dynamics, voting behavior, and other factors that build our fundamental understanding of economic, social, and political life.

“There’s something coarsely anti-democratic to say we’ll fund scholarly activity only if it’s related to national security and economic development,” she says. “If we can’t see and analyze the evidence, how can we have the tough conversations about poverty, economic mobility, or racism?”

WHEN THINKING ABOUT HEALTH CARE, FOCUS ON VALUE.

Rick Mayes, R’91, co-coordinator of the healthcare studies program and professor of political science

The biggest problem with U.S. health care, as Ezra Klein argues, is not that it costs too much; it’s that it delivers too little. Based on what we spend, we

should have the healthiest, longest living, least disabled, and most productive citizenry on the planet. We don’t.

I would emphasize two issues. First, the U.S. should redirect much of the \$3 trillion now spent each year on health care from treatment to prevention. Treating sick patients is vastly more expensive than helping individuals prevent chronic diseases such as emphysema/COPD, heart disease, and Type 2 diabetes. I would recommend former New York City mayor Michael Bloomberg as secretary of Health and Human Services. From banning smoking in bars and restaurants, outlawing trans fats in restaurants, and tightening gun-control laws, no other elected official has done more recently to expand prevention strategies. Moreover, he is refreshingly nonpartisan.

Second, deteriorating morale among clinicians is epidemic. The leading cause is increased bureaucracy; clinicians spend more time than ever doing paperwork and entering data into electronic health records, which means spending less time with patients. This has to change. Policymakers should also cut interest rates on medical education loans. The average medical student now graduates \$181,500 in debt. The nation’s 76.4 million baby boomers age fully into the Medicare program over the next 15 years. We should do all we can to help our nation’s clinicians thrive as much as possible.

★ A SPIDER VICE PRESIDENT? ★



QUOTATION

“I’m at the end of what will be about a 16-year career in elective office. I’m going to be no longer governor in January, and I just kind of have a feeling I’ll never see my name on a bumper sticker again.”

TIM KAINE, Virginia’s governor from 2006 to 2010, speaking at commencement on May 10, 2009. Kaine, who maintains a part-time continuing faculty appointment at Richmond’s law school and Jepson School for Leadership Studies, became the Democratic Party’s candidate for vice president in July.

Groeticke: In Germany, you don’t hear much about America except for Trump and really extreme things. We all hear about Trump and didn’t think it would happen. But now it’s getting scary.



Verde: A lot of the rhetoric of Donald Trump is really dangerous against women, minorities ... and it’s also dangerous for Europe.

Jerzewski: If we look at Trump and Sanders, who are outliers of respective political formations, they both structure their campaigns around a very particular enemy. For Trump, it’s immigrants, those who benefit from welfare. For Sanders, it’s Wall Street, the top one percent. This is exactly what populist right-wing parties in Europe have achieved — they appeal to the emotion and fear in people.

4. THEY SEE GAPS BETWEEN THEIR IMPRESSION OF AMERICAN IDEALS AND THEIR EXPERIENCE OF LIFE IN AMERICA.

Luka Klimaviciute, ’16, from Lithuania: To even compete for president, you need to have so much funding. What Obama did [with single donations], I thought was amazing. Usually you have to have so much capital or you have to be rich. How democratic is that?



Jerzewski: The U.S. government does a great job abroad in presenting itself as a more racially cohesive country than it is in reality. It’s one thing to know about history and all these issues in a very academic context, but to come here and see these tensions are still high, the racial component was a bit of a surprise.

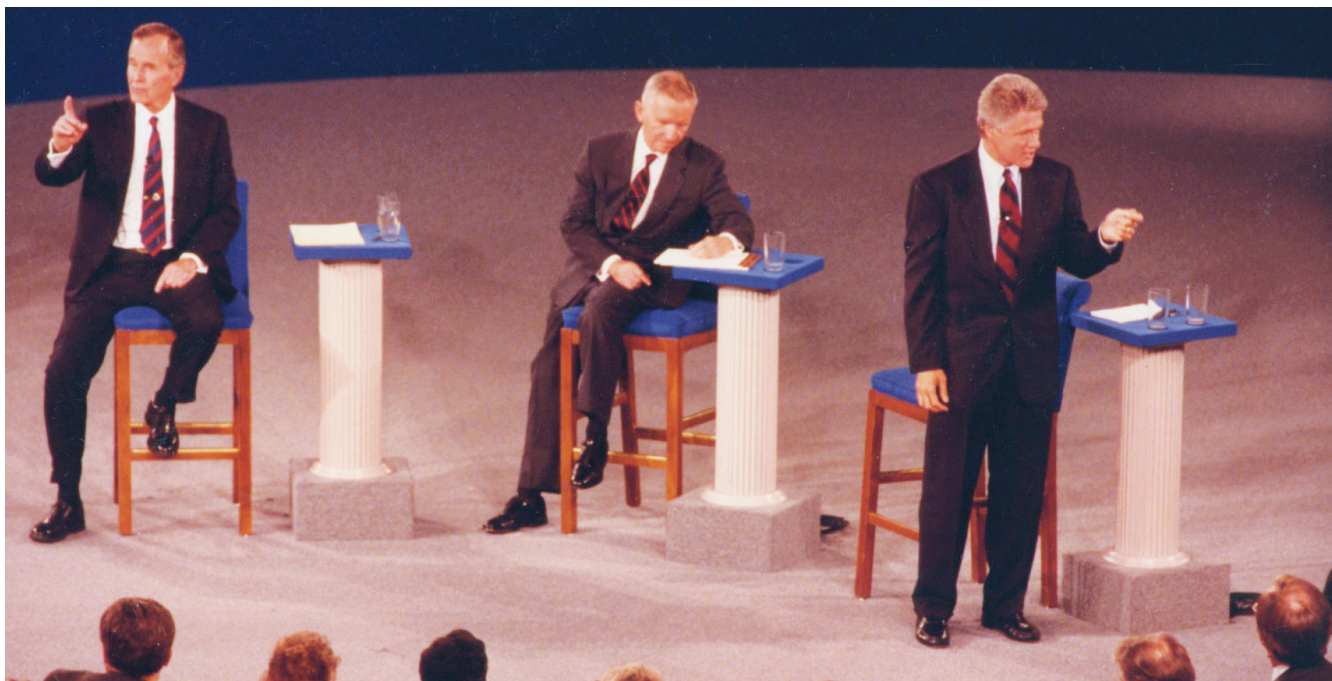
Jang: I think the policies in the United States are easily based on white people — for white people, by white people — even though they say we are a melting pot country.

the 2016 Election *A Spider's Guide*

STUDENTS IN THE FRAY

More than 600 students received UR Summer Fellowship funding for internship and research experiences during summer 2016, totaling more than \$2.2 million. Some of them used the opportunity to gain a front-row seat to our nation's politics and government:

- **Caroline Weber**, '17, interned at the White House through its summer internship program.
- **Claire Comey**, '19, interned in the office of U.S. Sen. Richard Blumenthal of Connecticut.
- **Gabriella Schneider**, '18, interned with the Think Tanks and Civil Societies Program at the Lauder Institute at the University of Pennsylvania, which conducts research on the role policy institutes play in governments and in civil societies around the world.
- **Thamine Nayeem**, '17, interned with Voice of America, the official external broadcasting institution of the U.S.



★ THE 1992 TOWN HALL DEBATE ★

Moderator Carole Simpson introduced the second presidential debate of the 1992 election as “unlike any other presidential debate in history” to a national television audience, and the University of Richmond played host. In the first-ever town hall-style debate, President George H.W. Bush and candidates Bill Clinton and H. Ross Perot stood in the Robins Center taking questions from uncommitted voters selected by an independent polling firm. The format drew mixed responses in the immediate aftermath — one citizen questioner told *The New York Times* afterward, “I heard some typical, canned expressions and few specifics being thrown out. What did I learn? I don’t know.” — but in bringing candidates closer to voters, it fundamentally changed how candidates communicate with voters.

★ AFTER SUCH A PARTISAN FIGHT, CAN WE EVER GET BACK TO NORMAL? ★

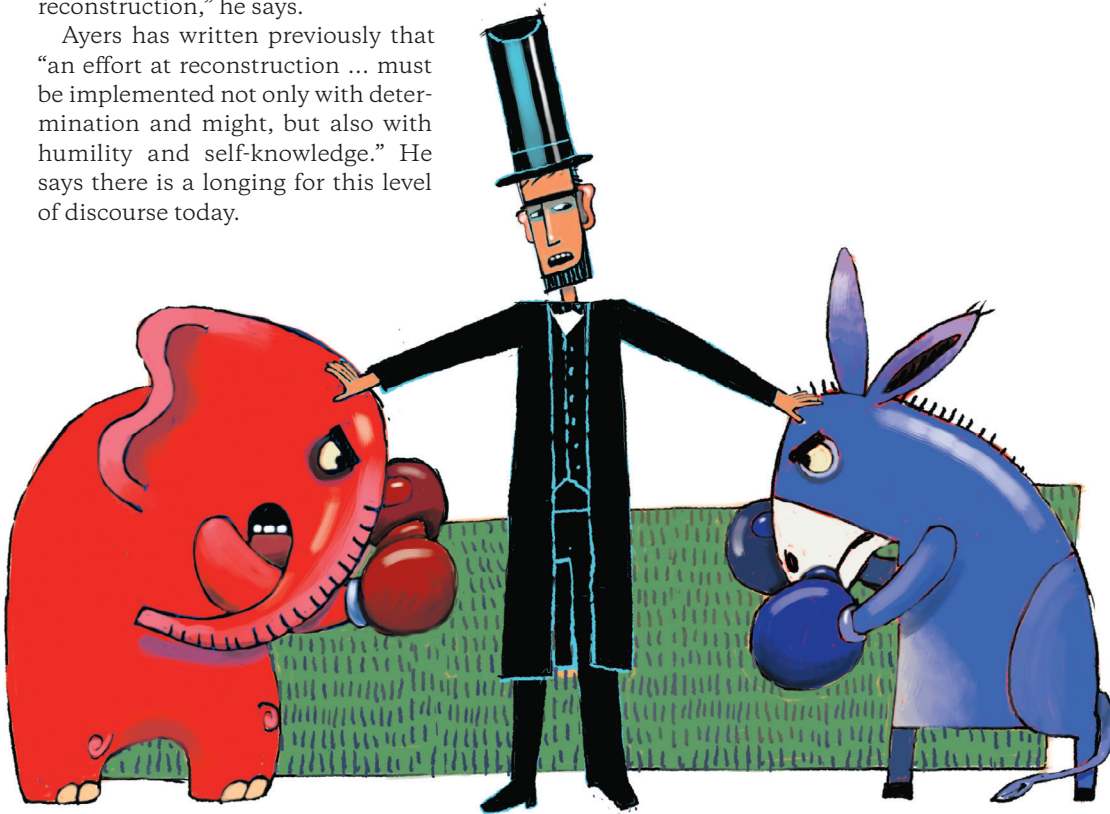
No matter the outcome of this year's election, one thing is clear: Some great percentage of voters will feel disillusioned, heartbroken, scared, betrayed, antagonistic. You could say that about any major election, but with this year's party infighting, racial tensions, and feminist wave, 2016 is markedly more contentious.

Pew Research Center reported in June that partisans' views of the opposite party are the most negative they've been since 1992. Fifty-five percent of Democrats said the Republican Party makes them feel afraid, and 49 percent of Republicans said the same about Democrats. Come the inauguration in January, how do we move forward?

Civil War expert and president emeritus Edward Ayers naturally looks to the past to consider the future. And he is quick to remind us that things have been much worse.

"I'm hard to impress with partisan divide when you look at the Civil War and reconstruction," he says.

Ayers has written previously that "an effort at reconstruction ... must be implemented not only with determination and might, but also with humility and self-knowledge." He says there is a longing for this level of discourse today.



"Abraham Lincoln is the perfect example," he says. "He was called much worse things than either Trump or Clinton are being called today, and his second inaugural address is the very embodiment of humility and self-knowledge. Lincoln led us through the hardest crisis by far the nation has ever faced, yet he refused to gloat. He shows that there is no contradiction between strength and modesty."

But even Lincoln was a fierce partisan, Ayers reminds us, and the nature of our two-party system makes modesty difficult.

"We want to be strong partisans, but we want to be one great people," Ayers says. "There's a great tension there. How do we transcend and get things done? You do it by acknowledging that's how things are and try to use that to accomplish some good. We seem perpetually surprised that parties are disagreeing with each other, but that's what we want." ✱

Dostalova: I would love for America to be the country that everyone imagines, but everybody needs to work on it. to fulfill this equality that is being proclaimed in these foundational laws and declarations. ... The American dream is a nice idea and

would be amazing if it worked, but it doesn't work. People are suffering here because they don't admit it. But what you think depends a lot on where you're from.



5. BUT THEY ALSO SEE ALIGNMENT WITH OUR IDEALS.

Ni: Anybody who is an American citizen has this eligibility to campaign for the presidential election. That's the essence of democracy — everyone has a chance. Even if your opinions are really biased, people give you a chance to speak. The Chinese government, they don't give you a chance.

6. THEY CARE DEEPLY ABOUT OUR ELECTION, EVEN IF WE DON'T RECIPROCATATE.

Klimaviciute: Foreign policy matters more than domestic when you're abroad — you pay attention to it. I'm surprised by how little people are involved in what's going on in the Middle East. People are more interested in tax rate and business.

Dostalova: It would be nice if sometimes the United States looked around and took an example from others. That would require some modesty, but that's not what [the country] was founded on. I get it.

Jerzewski: I think many U.S. students don't realize how interested people in other countries are in the campaign. Because of the extremely strong position of the United States in the world, because of the impact of U.S. policies, it's an issue that is crucial to everyone.



A SPIDER IN BROOKLYN





Rookie NBA head coach Ken Atkinson chats with Bob Black, the voice of the Spiders, about what he learned from coach Dick Tarrant, what he missed with his dad, and the challenge of bringing the Brooklyn Nets back to winning.

BY BOB BLACK

Just shy of 7 o'clock on a gray, cloud-covered summer morning, the city that never sleeps actually looks rather sleepy. Not Ken Atkinson. He is an hour into his day, having already guided two visitors from Richmond on an all-access, behind-the-scenes tour of the Brooklyn Nets' sparkling new, they-thought-of-everything training facility.

The 49-year-old Long Island native and Spider Hall of Famer is in the infancy of his first NBA head coaching job. He's the first Richmond Spider ever to be head coach of a major league professional team, and he's not about to waste time.

He takes a seat at an oversized conference table in his still undecorated, spacious eighth-floor office with a panoramic view of New York's skyline. It's the same table where in two hours he will sit with his hand-picked assistant coaches — cobbled from Cleveland, San Antonio, Atlanta, and Denver. He will lead them in mapping out a new era of basketball in Brooklyn. But for now, he cradles a cup of coffee and reminisces about the glory days of his alma mater.

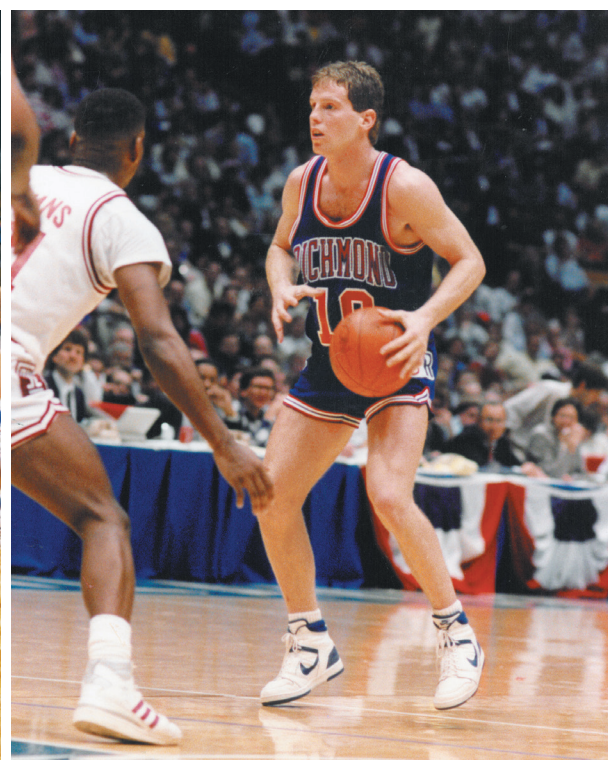
"Remember the midnight game?" Ken asks. "I tell that story all the time."

I remember, but my colleague across the table, Will Bryan, the director of public relations for Spider men's basketball, is too young to know. It was 1990, Ken's senior year, and ESPN was beginning to carve its college basketball niche. Its public relations machine thought it could attract viewers by televising East Coast games that tipped off at midnight. Richmond at James Madison featured the two best teams and the best rivalry in the Colonial Athletic Association.

An hour before the game, Ken, Richmond's star point guard, stomped onto the court, smiling and laughing confidently while dribbling a basketball — slamming it, really — into the hardwood right on the Dukes' logo at midcourt. The kid knew how to make an entrance. The arena was buzzing with JMU students. They let Ken know he was the marked villain.

Sitting at press row, I saw that reassuring Ken Atkinson look. He lived for moments like this. He'd led the Spiders to signature wins at Navy with David Robinson, at nationally ranked Georgia Tech, at the Richmond Coliseum against VCU with a last-second 40-footer, at the Meadowlands — in his backyard — when he banked in his only three pointer against Fairfield to tie the game at the end of regulation, sparking the Spiders to a win in triple overtime. Of course, there was the 1988 NCAA

Photograph by Nathaniel S. Butler/NBAE via Getty Images



Tournament run to the Sweet 16 with wins over defending national champ Indiana and Georgia Tech.

There was no reason to think tonight would be any different. Then the clock struck midnight.

"They beat us by 40, I think," Ken said. He wasn't far off; the score was 77-43. "The place was rocking. We were never in that game. But it became our sole motivation to get them again in the CAA final. I was a little scared because I was thinking, 'Are they really 40 points better than us?' They had great talent. When you're a young guy and you lose like that, and you're embarrassed on ESPN, well, it stuck in our craw."

A month later, in the CAA championship game at the Richmond Coliseum, the Spiders earned a 77-72 victory over that same JMU team. Ken scored 25 points and carried both the championship and tournament MVP trophies back to the Robins Center. "To come back and beat them in the final was incredible," he recalled.

It would be his crowning moment, the 84th and final triumph in his Spider career, making his class the winningest in school history, a record that stood for two decades before Kevin Anderson and his 2011 classmates eclipsed it with 91.

"That was a goal of mine — to be the winningest class," he said. "I don't know how, when I was that young, that I thought that way, but that was my mindset. I was so proud of the guys I played with there, the teams we had, the effort we gave, and how competitive we were. There's no doubt I'll take those lessons I learned from Coach (Dick) Tarrant and those teams at Richmond."

Dick Tarrant, the winningest coach in Spider history and a Richmond Hall of Famer, called Ken "one of the most important recruits we've ever had here. He certainly falls in line with the other great players we've had. Everyone respected the fact that he was such a gym rat. He was a fierce competitor. That's such an important thing in an athlete, and now as a coach. He had good leadership qualities. He was a tough nut — a tough little guy."

Getting him to Richmond in the first place proved to be tough enough. A Long Island kid who went into the playgrounds of Brooklyn looking for pickup games, Ken and his large family knew little of UR's picturesque campus.

"He was recruited by some pretty big schools," said Steve, the third of Ken's seven brothers. "Richmond came after him hard. I remember Coach Tarrant calling my dad and saying 'Mr. Atkinson, I need a point guard. I need your kid.' He didn't so much recruit him as he demanded him — as only Coach Tarrant could do. Kenny really made the decision himself, and obviously, it was a great one. He loved the school."

But it was a softer side of Tarrant, an ex-Marine like Ken's father, that made the most lasting impression.

"I've got to give Coach Tarrant a lot of credit," Ken said. "He wrote me a two-page letter — handwritten letter — with all the reasons he thought I could help his program. And he did it without blowing smoke. It was very realistic, very personal. I still have it somewhere."

"And then the Robins Center just blew me away. I never knew how this little school had this type of arena. Obviously, they were starting to get really good with Johnny Newman and that group. I was like, 'Wow.' I had no idea this place existed."

Four years later, he left with two NCAA appearances, one NIT, 1,549 points, and one regret.

His father, Neil, who passed away two years ago, regularly made the 12-hour round-trip drive to watch his second-youngest son play, usually dragging a family member with him — sometimes Ken's mom, Pauline; more often than not, Ken's brother Steve.

"I was a teacher and a coach," Steve said. "I went to all the weekend games, most of the time my father and me. I would practice with my team at 8 in the morning, then meet him off the Long Island Expressway, and we'd head to Richmond. We made 5 o'clock Mass at a church near campus, then headed over to the game, watched the game, talked to

Kenny for like 10 minutes, and that was it. We'd get in the car and go home. Every weekend. Away games, too."

And there's Ken's regret. "I should have gone to dinner with my dad after those games, but he wanted to get back, and I wanted to get with my friends and teammates and college life. That's part of this story: the sacrifices my dad made to come watch me play. I still can't believe he wouldn't stay overnight. He'd always drive back. He was a trooper."

"Richmond meant a lot to him. He'd always chat with people after games. Coach Tarrant. Mrs. Tarrant. Bill Dooley. Pat Dennis. Those people became huge characters in our family. I think this was his dream and it was my dream — together. So, it was pretty cool."

The NBA was young Ken Atkinson's dream. As a player.

"I honestly thought I was an NBA player. I was a little delusional. I had a heck of a college career, and I went to a few NBA camps and wasn't good enough. I was close, but quite honestly, not good enough. So I went overseas, and it was a humbling experience. I wasn't playing for the big teams. I was in mid- to lower-level leagues. I really was humbled by that and really grew up. I had to take stock. This isn't going to be a storybook NBA career."

"I realized I'm just a good player and I'm going to enjoy this experience from a cultural standpoint. I'm going to take advantage of every opportunity. Travel, do my best to speak the language, bring my family over to watch the games. It became more than basketball, and I grew up. I was pretty immature, even coming out of college. When you're a foreigner in a different country, it makes you grow up. I always say every American should live overseas for a year or two."

A year or two became 14 for Ken as a player and coach in Italy, France, Spain, Germany, and the Netherlands. He learned multiple languages and became a fan favorite.

"We went over and watched him play," recounted Steve. "We were in Naples. He hit the winning shot. The Italian people went crazy. They're kissing him. They're kissing me. So they interview him on the radio, and Kenny's speaking in fluid Italian. My father and I were like, 'Wow.'"

"If he could be, he'd still be playing in Europe. I remember when he told me he wouldn't play anymore. I felt bad, but I felt worse for him. We knew that's what he loved and what he wanted to do. He didn't play in the NBA, but the European thing really helped him develop his coaching skills."

He never spoke of, or even allowed himself to think about, becoming an NBA head coach. He simply worked at perfecting his craft and allowed others to take notice.

"I've just focused on the job I was given," Ken said. "I was never focused on the next job. I wasn't focused on working for the next team. There were times I thought, 'What do I have to do to prepare to be a head coach?' It was impossible to do without actually being in the driver's seat. It was almost a waste of time. Brooklyn came calling, and that was the reward for my patience."

Ken's tenacity and commitment were what the New York City press noticed when the Nets announced his hiring. The *Daily News* called his path to the job "twisted and arduous." The *New York Times* said his hire was "based on his reputa-

tion as a hard-working, high-energy motivator." The always colorful *New York Post* published the headline, "Meet Nets' Kenny Atkinson, who fought like hell for this shot," and quoted his old high school coach, Gus Alfieri, who said, "This kid, he paid his dues. He worked his butt off."

Ken's international appeal is a quality the Nets figure to accentuate in the melting pot that is New York City. Nets owner Mikhail Prokhorov is Russian. The general manager, Sean Marks, was the first New Zealand native player in the NBA. Ken's long and respected overseas career is one of the reasons he was Marks' ideal candidate to be the head coach of the Brooklyn Nets.

"International players will be important for us," Ken said. "Every year the percentage of international players in the NBA has increased. I have some kind of perspective, something in common. You know the clubs they played for, the leagues they were in. I think it's huge."

So was reconnecting with former Spider teammate Chris Fleming, '93, who was part of the 1991 team that shocked Syracuse in the NCAA Tournament. Fleming poured in 25 points, including seven three-pointers, in the second-round loss to Temple. The two were teammates Ken's senior season when Fleming sat out after transferring from Connecticut.

"We worked out a lot together," Fleming said. "Before practice, after practice, and in the offseason. But we never played a game together."

Unlike Ken, Fleming wasn't considering playing overseas until he received a call from Isabell Eifert, the girlfriend and future wife of his Richmond teammate and roommate Jim

"What made Kenny a really outstanding college player was how competitive he was. He was a guy who took an enormous amount of time to prepare himself for those moments when the lights were on."

—Chris Fleming, teammate

Shields, B'92, who was playing in Germany.

"She thought it was lonely for him and that it would be better if he had a friend over there," Fleming said. "So she started calling clubs in Germany without even telling me. It worked out. It wasn't a very professional league. The disadvantage of playing at that level was not making a lot of money. But the advantage was learning the culture, the language, meeting a lot of great people. It was a lot of luck on my part and a lot of help from Isabell Shields."

"I actually got fired as a player and got offered a coaching job at the same time. One door closed, and one door opened, and I just went through the open one. It's something I thought about, but I thought I'd play a few more years. But the club realized my career was over before I did."

Fleming's coaching career in Germany flourished, culminating with his current position as head coach of the German National Team. Ken, meanwhile, became a rising star in the NBA coaching ranks, focusing primarily on player development during stops in New York, Houston, and Atlanta. Fleming, a New Jersey native, returned to the States last year as an assistant with the Denver Nuggets and didn't

hesitate to accept Ken's offer to join him in Brooklyn.

"The big motivating factor for me coming here was Kenny," Fleming said. "I jumped at the chance to work with him. What made Kenny a really outstanding college player was how competitive he was. He was a guy who took an enormous amount of time to prepare himself for those moments when the lights were on. I think that same strength is what he uses in coaching. It's behind the scenes where he's really prepared himself."

For the morning meeting with his support staff, Ken moves to the head of the crowded conference table. An athletic trainer, a nutritionist, and a strength and conditioning coach give what Ken refers to as the "weather report" — an update on injuries and conditioning.

"The best way to get them in shape is to play — get 'em up and down the court," Ken says following a lengthy discussion.

After the support staff departs, Ken listens to ideas and suggestions from his new coaching staff. They are prepping for workouts with young players on the Nets' summer league team like holdovers Sean Kilpatrick and Rondae Hollis-Jefferson along with rookie draft picks Caris LeVert and Isaiah Whitehead. Each assistant offers a drill he used with his previous team. The coaches will need to learn them before teaching them to the players.

Ken leads the group onto the spacious practice floor — two full-length courts, brightly lit and bordered by large bay windows offering an eye-popping view of the Manhattan skyline.

The coaches conduct their own practice with no players. Each coach explains a drill. The staff runs through the drills with the obvious delight of being a player again, if just for a few fleeting, fantasizing moments. Ken stands off to the side — watching, questioning, and learning.

The players emerge from their spacious locker room. The scheduled 11 a.m. practice starts precisely at 11 a.m. It is a high-energy session, almost with a college enthusiasm — handshakes, high fives, and players rushing to pick up a fallen teammate. Each assistant coach works with a group of players. Ken paces from station to station, looking and sounding very much like a head coach.

"It's ridiculous that it's Brooklyn. Brooklyn is basketball. ... I grew up watching Nets games with my family, especially my dad. Let's face it. This would be different if it was Memphis or Sacramento. It's a dream."

"Be a threat to score," he demands to a group of — naturally — guards who are working through a drill where they dribble to the basket either for a shot or a pass to a teammate.

"Drive the ball to score the ball," he tells them, words any Spider fan who watched him play will recall him doing over and over in No. 10 red and blue. The practice ends at 12:30 p.m. with a scrimmage.

The day is far from over for Ken and his staff. Next up is an introductory press conference on Coney Island featuring Whitehead, the first Brooklyn native to play for the Brooklyn Nets. The entourage heads down to the street level of



the practice facility. Two vehicles await — a well-appointed van and a large SUV. The drivers greet the staff warmly. It's obvious this isn't their first trip together, and they've already developed a bond.

The vehicles arrive right on time, and Nets PR director Aaron Harris is waiting on the sidewalk to escort Ken, Whitehead, and the staff to the Nets' team store across the street from Nathan's Famous Hot Dogs — arguably Coney Island's best-known landmark.

Ken and Whitehead position themselves on barstool-style seats in front of the Nets store that features Whitehead's new Brooklyn uniform jersey No. 15 with his name on the back.

Just as he was in college, Ken is still comfortable in front of the horde of media and curious fans. He describes the Nets as "off-Broadway" compared to New York's other more scrutinized and publicized professional sports teams. By those standards, this

—Ken Atkinson

media opportunity is a success.

In late afternoon back at the training facility, there is another important meeting, this one to discuss free agency. Despite winning only 21 games a year ago, the Nets didn't have high draft picks, but they do have deep pockets and millions of dollars in salary cap money to lure players who want to be part of a rebuilding process.

One of the Nets' first summer free-agent signings was guard Jeremy Lin, who in 2012 enjoyed a 26-game stretch for the New York Knicks in which he dazzled with points and assists, and "Linsanity" swept through the NBA. The



Knicks' assistant coach whom Lin credited for his unprecedented success was Ken Atkinson.

"I think there's a lot of responsibility trying to build a program and all the obligations that go with it," said Ken, whom the Nets hired in mid-April. "It's more than I expected right off the bat with the draft and free agency. It's surreal right now."

But nothing seems more surreal to him than his own story of a native son coming home.

"It's ridiculous that it's Brooklyn," he admits, looking out his office window toward his childhood home, a mere 35 miles to the east. "Brooklyn is basketball. I always looked up to players from Brooklyn. Bernard King. Chris Mullin. Pearl Washington. I grew up watching Nets games with my family, especially my dad. Let's face it. This would be different if it was Memphis or Sacramento. It's a dream."

The dream is still becoming reality.

"I'm waiting for that moment when I realize I'm an NBA head coach," he said. "I don't think it will hit me until I coach my first game."

His family shares similar emotions.

"We're going to look at each other and say, 'This is incredible,'" Steve said. "I know I'll be thinking about my father, and I know Kenny will be thinking about him. We'll be so proud of him. It would be great no matter where he got the job, but for it to be Brooklyn is incredible. We were Nets fans. It's just unbelievable that he comes back to coach the Nets. I can tell he's so happy because he loves New York."

At the end of the long day, Ken invites Fleming, me, and my colleague Will Bryan to join him, his wife Laura, and their two children, Anthony and Annika, for dinner at a neighborhood restaurant in Brooklyn, where they now live.

"If I'm coaching in Brooklyn, I'll live in Brooklyn," he had vowed. Laura spent three days "with her track shoes on, pounding the pavement trying to figure out how to get a place close to the practice facility, close to Barclays Center and with good schools. The neighborhood is pretty cool. I'm

thrilled with the choice."

Walking through the basketball court at a nearby school playground, the two former Spider guards take turns reliving their three-point prowess. While their form is reminiscent of their playing days, the Richmond record they share — eight three pointers in a game — remains unchallenged on the Brooklyn playground, although Ken swishes his last attempt.

During a relaxed dinner, Chris and Ken recount their overseas experiences. Fleming spent all his time in one country, Germany. Not Ken.

"Fourteen years, 14 cities," Laura good-naturedly reminds him.

The admiration from players and coaches who know this globetrotting, basketball lifer is universal, and it would be difficult to find anyone in the NBA who thinks the Nets made a mistake in making him the first Richmond Spider to lead a North American major league sports franchise.

"I think it helps that people in this business respect my work," he said. "I know that doesn't guarantee anything. It doesn't guarantee wins. But it gives me confidence. Maybe we won't be the most talented team on the floor every night, but we will compete really hard, play together, share the ball, do all the little things that help your team win. Those are lessons I learned from Coach Tarrant and those Richmond teams, and they're going to be used in Brooklyn, I can tell you that. I think I'm ready." *

Bob Black, the voice of the Spiders, has been calling Spider games since 1983. He is director of broadcast and news content for the Division of Athletics and the play-by-play announcer for football and men's basketball on TV and radio. He also hosts weekly coaches' shows, writes the Spider Insight column for richmondspiders.com, and can be heard weekdays from 3 to 4 p.m. in the Richmond area on his radio show, "The Sports Huddle," on ESPN 950 and SPORTS FM 100.5.

OUR NEW FRONT DOOR

A close look at Richmond is often a “wow” experience. With the new Queally Center, “wow” will become the University’s first impresssion on new and returning visitors. The center integrates the offices of admission, financial aid, and employer development under one roof. It will be where we greet prospective students and their families, where they begin their campus tours, and where prospective employers conduct on-campus interviews.

WHY IT MATTERS

Bringing these offices together in this beautiful new space transforms the visitor experience and helps the University better serve students from admission acceptance letter to employment offer letter. It demonstrates Richmond’s commitment to attracting the very best students, ensuring Richmond is financially accessible to them, and positioning graduates for lives of purpose.

ESSENTIAL FACTS

- Located between Gottwald Center for the Sciences and the Special Programs Building
- Built to LEED silver or gold standards (final rating pending)
- Size: 56,000 square feet
- Cost: \$26.5 million

KEY STATS

Admission and financial aid

- 24,000 prospective students and family members made an admission visit last year.
- 10,420 students applied for approximately 800 spaces in the Class of 2020.

- Richmond is among 1 percent of universities that are both need-blind and meet 100 percent of demonstrated need.
- Sixty-seven percent of undergraduate students receive financial aid, with an average need-based aid package of \$44,770.

Employer development

- Employers conducted approximately 1,000 interviews with Richmond students through the career services office last year.
- In 2014-15, 69 percent of undergraduate students visited career services for advising, workshops, and events.

ABOUT THE DONORS

The center was made possible by a lead gift from Paul and Anne-Marie Queally, both 1986 Phi Beta Kappa graduates of the University. This building is the latest example of the Queallys’ decades-long generosity to areas across the University. Additional major gifts came from 47 other donors.



Photograph by Gordon Schmidt





GAMES PEOPLE PLAY

BY CAROLINE KETTLEWELL
ILLUSTRATIONS BY CATHRYN VIRGINIA

There's no insider's guide to culture, no crib sheet for the forces that shape, reflect, and upend our view of the world. Understanding them takes a mind that can read cues and spot assumptions lurking beneath the surface — skills Kristin Bezio teaches through, of all things, video games.

KRISTIN BEZIO IS COMFORTABLE WITH CONTRADICTIONS. She's a Shakespeare expert and a pop-culture critic, a leadership professor who encourages her students to question everything she tells them, an academic and a video gamer, a woman in traditionally male-dominated fields, a literary scholar who says the worst thing for scholarship is getting siloed in your discipline. And in her office in Jepson Hall, surrounded by books and under the steady gaze of a Shakespeare portrait, the assistant professor of leadership studies is chasing amorphous blobs across the screen on her computer monitor.

The game she is playing is called *flOw*, and for those of us who might think that video games are a mindless black hole where SAT scores and ambition go to die, it's worth noting that this particular game began as the mesmerizingly beautiful product of its creator's MFA thesis project. It's one of the games students play early in Bezio's seminar Games, Game Theory, and Leadership, and it poses students with a question both literal and metaphorical: How do you figure out what the rules are when nobody tells you what the rules are?

Without explanation or introduction, *flOw* simply begins with a white shape — really just a string of three small circles with a C-shaped appendage at one end — adrift against a soothing blue background, accompanied by hypnotic electronic music. That you quickly intuit that the shape is some kind of wormlike creature floating in a featureless sea, and that when another shape pulses onto the screen you know your creature is supposed to "eat" it could tell you something right off about how the mind works to make sense of familiar movements and patterns.

You almost instinctively reach for a controller — mouse or track pad or other device — to move the creature through the space, an impulse that suggests how thoroughly our digital devices have trained us.

Strangely captivating, *flOw* is also, at first, bewildering. But slowly, you realize, you're learning to play the game by playing the game, cued by visual and sound elements and errors that you figure out how not to make again.

You could pause here to consider how our minds are

attuned to learn, to pick up and apply information we're not always even aware we're absorbing; you started out not really sure where you were headed or what your goal was, and you had to begin spotting the cues, reading the signs, connecting cause and effect, devising a strategy, and figuring it out step by step. It might even remind you of something. College maybe? Life?

Of course, you don't have to think about any of these things. You could just play the game. But "not thinking about things" is exactly what Kristin Bezio doesn't want

you to do. As a scholar and as a teacher, she explores how games and other forms of popular entertainment implicitly and explicitly shape, reflect, and question our view of the world. This is the thread that connects her two apparently disparate fields of inquiry, early modern drama and contemporary gaming.

"Whether 400 years ago or today, popular culture has the capacity to change the way we think about things, sometimes without us even being aware that it is doing so," Bezio says.

In her teaching, then, Bezio asks her students to be aware, to ask: What are the default presumptions we operate with? Why do we believe what we believe? Why are things the way they are, and does that mean they are necessarily the way they should be?

"So often students come in trained that things are a certain way," she says. "They don't ever stop to think whether they have

to be that way or should be that way. And I want them to think about that. The most practical thing I can give my students is the ability to critically evaluate what is in front of them and think for themselves — to evaluate evidence, find information, process what it all means, and come to a conclusion."

DUDE, YOU'RE A GIRL

On a spring afternoon, Bezio is sitting in a coffee shop near the University of Richmond campus talking about Shakespeare and popular culture.

"In his day, he was Steven Spielberg," she says. "He wasn't a super-important high-culture guy. He was catering directly to the masses."



When Shakespeare was writing, she says, “Elizabeth was well past the average life span, with no children, so the big question was, ‘What’s going to happen next?’” With uncertainty about who would succeed Elizabeth, “on the stage the question was: What happens when people try to come in and impose their will?” And again and again in Shakespeare’s plays, she says, “the idea is that kings are accountable and that they should be accountable, and that if they really blow it, people have the right to take them down.”

Did Shakespeare’s plays shape public opinion about what a leader should be? In studying Shakespeare, Bezio says, you look at “the conversations that are happening on the stage relative to what is going on politically around those plays.”

In the same way, she says, you can look at contemporary popular culture and ask what is happening in the world and how it is being commented on, reflected, or even shaped by modern media in a deeply complex feedback loop. What is cause, and what is effect? How does popular culture sometimes simply amplify what we are, and how does it sometimes offer a vision of what we could be?

On the one hand, popular culture is arguably a vehicle for social progress. Did the fact that a black actor played a U.S. president on a popular television series in the years before the 2008 election help make the idea of an Obama presidency viable to the show’s audience? Did the television show *Murphy Brown* make single motherhood more socially acceptable? Did *Will & Grace* help pave the way for the legalization of gay marriage?

“If it becomes normal, then it becomes normal,” Bezio says. “That idea — of normalizing having different people around you — goes far more to decrease bigotry than pretty much anything else.”

On the other hand, popular culture can also reinforce or even promote regressive stereotypes and unquestioned conventional ideas. Bezio grew up in the world of computer and video gaming and technology from the time she was a young child; she was playing computer games you’ve never heard of — Lode Runner? FaceMaker? — before most of us had ever heard of computer games. She’s as digitally native as you can get. Yet the mere fact of being a woman in gaming subjects her to persistent suspicion, harassment, and even abuse, and Bezio says she doesn’t like playing with strangers in online multiplayer environments.

“If I speak out loud and they hear my voice, then I have to deal with all these people accusing me, ‘Oh, it’s really your boyfriend playing,’ or, ‘You’re not really a girl,’” and demanding pictures to prove it, she says.

She recalls the time she’d been playing skillfully but silently with an otherwise all-male team in an online game. When she finally offered a comment, she was greeted with silence followed by an astonished, “Dude, you’re a girl?”

Why is this so? More than 150 million Americans and more than a billion people worldwide play video games. Almost as many adult American women (48 percent) as men (50 percent) engage in playing them, according to a recent Pew Research study. Why, then, should routine

harassment and stereotyping be the particular entry price of gaming while female? Why, too, are female characters, if they appear at all in video games, so often cartoonishly sexualized, Kim Kardashian bodies scantily outfitted in laughably improbable outfits that defy the laws of physics, not to mention pragmatics? (Who girds for battle in a metal bikini and thigh-high dominatrix boots?) Why, despite the actual demographics, do a majority of both men and women, including more than half of women who actually play video games, “believe that most people who play video games are men,” according to the Pew survey?

And why does asking these questions, as a woman, in public forums — blogs, gaming conferences, news outlets — run the real risk of earning the asker a torrent of abuse, including graphically violent death threats?

Death threats.

Over video games.

When Bezio wrote a piece for *The Seattle Times* addressing a particularly contentious (and, to anyone outside the gaming

YOU STARTED OUT NOT REALLY SURE WHERE YOU WERE HEADED OR WHAT YOUR GOAL WAS, AND YOU HAD TO BEGIN SPOTTING THE CUES, READING THE SIGNS, CONNECTING CAUSE AND EFFECT, DEVISING A STRATEGY, AND FIGURING IT OUT STEP BY STEP. IT MIGHT EVEN REMIND YOU OF SOMETHING. COLLEGE MAYBE? LIFE?

community, almost incomprehensibly arcane) controversy about sexism in gaming known as “GamerGate,” as a precaution her university contact information and CV were hidden from public view, and she used a secondary email address that routed to the University’s communications office to insulate her from the anticipated backlash — not the usual stratagems called to bear when an academic pens a thought piece for a regional news outlet.

But this is why asking questions — why are things the way they are, and does that mean they are necessarily the way they should be? — is the vital role that university scholarship plays and the one it models for students.

“Since we are constantly seeking new knowledge,” Bezio says, “scholarship is always questioning.”

THE CAKE IS A LIE

Back in Bezio’s office, the visually arresting *f10w* is replaced on the monitor by *ZORK*, a truly old-school computer game created by MIT students in the 1970s, and another game played by students in Bezio’s game theory seminar. It’s interactive, but purely through text, opening with this rather opaque introduction:

This is an open field west of a white house, with a boarded front door.

There is a small mailbox here.

A rubber mat saying “Welcome to Zork!” lies by the door.

Once again, how do you figure out the rules when nobody tells you what the rules are? In this game, you have to enter commands, and the game provides you information and feedback — not all of it particularly illuminating — based on what you type.

>enter house

I can’t see how to get in from here.

>walk to house

You can’t see any such thing.

>walk

You’ll have to say which compass direction to go in.

Among the things ZORK teaches, besides one’s tolerance for frustration, is the importance of specificity in language, a point English teachers often struggle to convey and which undergraduates often struggle to learn.

“ZORK,” says Bezio, “teaches the students how to communicate in words.”

As Bezio’s seminar progresses, the games grow increasingly complex — visually, narratively, interactively, and thematically. Each game builds skills the students will need in the next one, but each also introduces increasingly murky layers of misdirection and even deception.

CHOOSE WISELY

In a traditional literature class, students examine how characters behave within a narrative, look at the choices they make and the consequences of those choices, and consider what the author might have been saying or what they as readers might conclude from those consequences. Can they imagine themselves into the minds and the motivations and the decisions made by a murderous king, a feckless lover, a benighted and troubled hero? Would they have chosen differently?

In the games students play in Bezio’s seminar, however, students not only examine the narrative and its meanings and imagine themselves as its characters, but they actually step into the narrative and assume the role of the lead, the one making choices, and experience directly, within the rules and the environment of the game, the consequences of those choices. By the time the students encounter *BioShock*, the final game they play in the class, they find themselves embedded in a multi-character narrative (an extended critique of Ayn Rand’s objectivist philosophy, according to Bezio) where allies and enemies aren’t always clear, and players are forced to make ethically complex choices with uncertain outcomes.

“The game is designed to force those ethical choices,” Bezio says. “And the point is that it is complicated, and it is not obvious what you should do.”

For students who have come up through the current education system with its focus on bubble-sheeted standardized testing with a limited set of defined choices, a pop-culture video game set in a dystopian virtual world that asks them to confront ethically ambiguous situations and make difficult decisions turns out to be a helpful way of rehearsing their way through the kinds of dilemmas they will face in their real-world futures.

“We want students to begin to think about the many dimensions of solving a problem, of analyzing a situation,” says Jacque Fetrow, Richmond’s provost and vice president of academic affairs. “By giving them opportunities to see how other people have done it” — whether it’s a historical figure, a Shakespearean king, or a weapon-wielding character in a video game — “they can begin to think about ‘why did they make that choice,’ and we can help students begin to know how to make their own choices in the moment.”

Today’s students are graduating, as they are ever reminded, into an increasingly complex and unpredictable globalized world with a career environment radically different from the one their parents were educated for only a generation ago.

“For today’s students graduating from college, the average number of jobs they’re predicted to hold is in the double digits,” Fetrow notes. “We’re educating students not for a single job but for a lifetime of jobs, some that don’t even exist today. That means that throughout their lives, they are going to need to be able to learn new skills, to solve unscripted problems, to do things that were not necessarily required of previous generations, and they are not going to be able to be successful unless we help them develop those skills necessary.”

“LISTENING TO MANY VOICES DOES NOT MEAN THAT YOU AUTOMATICALLY GIVE EACH OF THEM EQUAL WEIGHT, THAT WE HAVE TO ACCEPT WHAT THEY SAY AS EQUALLY VALID. BUT IF WE DON’T LISTEN, WE WILL NEVER KNOW.”

In *Gone Home*, a visual “narrative exploration” in which players explore a house where no one is home, there are red herrings that create confusion as the plot is revealed. In *Portal*, a wildly imaginative extended exercise in physics puzzles overlaid with a dystopian plotline, a disembodied computer voice named GLaDOS offers guidance and instruction while leading your first-person character through a series of progressively harrowing “training exercises” with the promise of cake as the reward. But GLaDOS is an unreliable narrator.

“The game eventually betrays you,” Bezio says cheerily. “Instead of cake, there’s a fiery pit you have to escape.”

As proof of the reach of pop culture, “The cake is a lie” has taken on a meme life of its own (you can buy it printed on a T-shirt). It’s a phrase that sums up what the game is teaching Bezio’s students beyond the gameplay itself.

“Why are you listening to the voice?” Bezio asks. “Why do you believe what she’s telling you? The game trains you to think about that.”

And from there, Bezio says, some students get to exactly the “aha!” moment she’s hoping for them.

“Should we question what YOU tell us?” they ask her. “And I say yes.”

These skills, Bezio says, will help them navigate the unpredictable. “Students will ask me, ‘What should I do in order to get a job?’ wanting a clear and obvious path,” she says. “But that is not how life works. There is not a clear path. There is not a series of check boxes.”

LEVELING UP TO LEADERSHIP

On Bezio’s monitor, the introduction to *BioShock Infinite*, a sequel of sorts to the first *BioShock*, is playing. When Bezio’s students have made it this far, they’ve mastered the skills and the knowledge to mine a video game’s narrative for meaning, to navigate its gameplay, to consider their choices, and to make difficult decisions. They’ve learned to question everything.

However, Bezio says, “once you have that base knowledge, you have to do something with it, and what you do with it is not something that anyone can tell you.”

One thing they do with it in Bezio’s class is make games of their own. In teams, students spend the semester devising, planning, creating, and troubleshooting games built on an open-source platform called ARIS that makes it possible for non-programmers to develop GPS-based games for smartphones.

Each team keeps a blog during the process. Reading the arc of the entries, from initial brainstorming through team role assignments, trial-and-error to completion, is to see at work the human capacity for endless ingenuity: Here, take this tool you’ve never used to create a game that doesn’t exist, drawing on skills you might not yet know you have, within a random group of people who have never worked together before.

The students have to choose roles for themselves — who will be the programmers, write the script, be the artists, keep the team on task and on schedule. They have to agree on a concept, develop a detailed execution plan, master a working knowledge of ARIS’s capabilities, devise workarounds for its limitations, identify glitches, delegate problem-solving, and maintain communication through everyone’s class schedules and extracurricular demands. Chronicling each team’s navigation through these expectations and challenges, blog posts are by turns hopeful, reflective, urgent, pragmatic, and celebratory.

There is insight: “The only way we can produce a fun and diverse game is by pulling ideas from a diverse set of minds.” There is building excitement: “Our game is really starting to be something to get excited about and I can’t

wait to play it in the near future.” There is frustration: “gazebo quest half works”; “lots of issues with the water bucket”; “why isn’t ‘yes’ an option??”

And there is pride in success: “I believe we accomplished everything we imagined and more. We took an idea, expanded on it, and ended up with a unique game that forces the player to contemplate each and every decision.”

And if the tangible result of this process is fighting mutant geese or escaping a Richmond-campus plague or taking a virtual tour of campus via riddles, what actually goes into figuring out what should happen when you hit the digital triceragoose with a bucket or why the game crashed between the Commons and Gottwald is, for one thing, realizing “how incredibly complicated it is to create a game,” Bezio says.

More than that, however, the students have moved from

reading the character to playing the character to creating the character, from analyzing choices to navigating them to devising them. For “The Richmond Plague,” the team even decided to include an ethically ambiguous situation — a “selfish” and a “selfless” path, determined by a single decision, each leading to different outcomes in the game.

In studying, playing, and working together to create the narratives of games, the students in Bezio’s seminars keep having to reset their perspectives and consider different stories and different points of view. In our current cultural moment, marked both by an expanding list of pressing global issues and a concurrent retreat into ever more polarized, partisan narratives and selectively curated realities, the expectation that students must entertain perspectives not their own

is perhaps one of the most widely underappreciated values of a liberal education.

“Listening to many voices does not mean that you automatically give each of them equal weight, that we have to accept what they say as equally valid,” Bezio says. “But if we don’t listen, we will never know.”

Or as Development Team Uno put the stakes succinctly on its blog: “We all have to work together effectively if we want our game to be truly successful.” ✱

Caroline Kettlewell is a freelance writer based in Richmond and the author of *Electric Dreams*.



ALUMNI

INTERSTELLAR

Artist rendering courtesy NASA/JPL-Caltech



A VERY RAD PLACE

The radiation in Jupiter's atmosphere is 20 million times that on Earth.

Shots of Jupiter

As NASA's Juno probe entered Jupiter's orbit this summer, Amy Snyder Hale, '93, nervously awaited word of the mission's success here on hum-drum Earth at the Jet Propulsion Laboratory in Pasadena, Calif.

Five years after launch, the crucial part of the mission — firing up the engines and slowing down to enter the planet's orbit — had arrived. When confirmation of success came through, joy abounded.

"There was lots of cheering and clapping," Hale said. "Gray-haired, old scientists who generally show little emotion will hug you."

NASA doesn't allow champagne to celebrate success — orbiting while under the influence is strictly forbidden — but Hale reports an ample supply of ice cream in the break room.

Hale was a physics major at Richmond and has always loved planetary science. She joined the project six years ago, a year before the mission launched. Hale acts as the glue between creators of the instruments on board and the Juno project team.

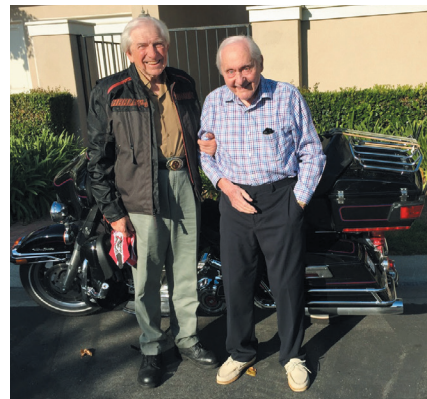
The Juno mission is remarkable for two reasons: It won a competitive internal process to receive its funding, and now it's the solar-powered probe farthest out in the galaxy.

Near Jupiter, solar rays are about 25 percent as powerful as they are here on the third rock from the sun, but the radiation field would still kill most living things. The project team encased instruments in an intense titanium vault. Even with that precaution, it was impossible to re-create the environment for testing.

MILES TO GO

Heilman's latest ride took him 6,000 miles from Richmond to San Diego and back. Over the past decade, he's ridden across the U.S. at least five times and through all 50 states and Canada. In July, he celebrated his 90th birthday. The man is nonstop.

BURSTS



Road trip

E. Bruce Heilman, University chancellor and president emeritus, took to the roads for a long ride on his Harley once again. This time, he completed a monthlong, cross-country trip to celebrate World War II veterans and raise awareness of the 70th anniversary of the attack on Pearl Harbor. He arrived back in Richmond in time for Memorial Day. This photo is one of many from his visits with Spiders along the way. He met with Hunter Keck, R'38, right, while passing through southern California.



FOLLOW ALONG

While Juno's primary mission is to analyze the magnetic fields, radiation environment, and particles of our solar system's largest planet, NASA also outfitted the satellite with a camera that the public can target. The first images were expected in late August. See more at www.missionjuno.swri.edu/junocam.

We're online. Are you?

Odds are, if you're reading this, your mailing address is up-to-date. But are you receiving the president's quarterly updates and other messages via email? Log in to UROnline.net to update your information, access the alumni directory, and send a class note. Notes for next issue are due by Oct. 1.

Your voice

What makes the University of Richmond distinctive in higher education, and how do we best present our answer and image to the world?

We may soon be asking for your help answering these questions.

The University has launched a brand positioning study to help us better articulate the importance and value of the University of Richmond. Simpson Scarborough, a national firm helping us with this effort, will soon be contacting alumni and others via email to complete an online survey. The questions were developed after qualitative research work with alumni, prospective students, and community and business leaders earlier this summer.

If you receive the survey, please lend your voice as we gather data to help us to develop authentic and compelling messages that will help describe and differentiate the University of Richmond and propel Richmond's reputation.

NEW GRADS



PRIDE PROMOTERS Every Spider is a good Spider, but this spring, the University inducted 24 graduating students into the Red Spider Society, a new organization that works with the University's advancement division to promote service, philanthropy, and pride amongst their peers post-graduation. Congratulations to them all.

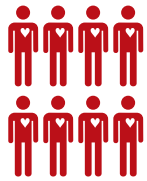
LIFEGIVING



Photograph by Gordon Schmidt

ORGAN DONOR COUNSEL

Livingston navigates the confluence of medicine, intellectual property, law, and ethics.



DONATE LIFE

Livingston says there are around 120,000 people waiting on the transplant list, and 22 of them die each day. "We're transplanting more people than ever, but people are being added faster than we can find organ donors," he said. "Our No. 1 goal is to reverse that trend." Interested in learning more? Visit donatelife.net.

Lifesaving legal

Medical dramas have given the public a passing familiarity with the United Network for Organ Sharing, the organization that manages the U.S. organ transplant network. Many might not know the organization is headquartered in Richmond. Its general counsel is a Spider: Jason Livingston, L'97.

What do you think the public may be surprised to learn about UNOS?

That the waiting list is a misnomer. It's not a static list of individuals. There's a new list created for every single organ recovered. For every kidney recovered, there is a new list of 100,000 people. In most cases, the donor is accepted from among the first 100 people. Organs from low-quality donors may be rejected from everybody.

What are some of the biggest legal questions organ donation raises?

Can we do this? That's interesting — and I know that's a very broad question. If someone has a novel idea for allocating an organ, the laws may not permit it. You can't give any valuable

consideration for an organ, but the law doesn't define what that is and isn't. We have to often determine whether planned transplants conflict with that.

Did you have to make any shifts in your thinking to do this work?

The challenge for me was changing the mindset from one of an adversarial to a collaborative system. In our line of work, we are the convener of stakeholders from around the country and different institutions. By and large, we all want the same thing. There are some disagreements on the best way to get there.

What are some challenges the organization faces?

The pace of progress and change is slower than we might like. We are a heavily regulated field of medicine, but when we want to change allocation policy to make safer transplants, make them last longer, or increase them, we have a long and unwieldy process to go through, and ultimately all changes have to be programmed into the system by our IT staff.

ALUMNI AWARDS



DAVID RAISER, '06, of Boston received the Distinguished Recent Graduate Award. Raiser is the co-founder and CEO of Aldatu Biosciences, a biotechnology company providing products that address diagnostic challenges in global health, primarily in HIV and other infectious diseases. After graduating from UR, Raiser received his Ph.D. in genetics from Harvard Medical School.



MICHELLE SWARTZ CASTIGLIONE, '06, received the Jepson School of Leadership Studies Tenth Year Reunion Recognition Award. Castiglione is a senior leadership analyst for the federal government. Her work profiling Middle Eastern leaders has shaped the foreign policy decisions of several presidents, White House officials, and members of the National Security Council.



DAVID ROSENBAUM, '96, of Los Angeles received the Distinguished Service Award. After 10 years and 10 movies with Illumination Entertainment, Rosenbaum is helping form a new animation studio in Montreal as chief creative officer for Cinesite, a London-based visual effects company that won an Oscar this year for *The Revenant*. During his time at Illumination Entertainment, the Minions films ranked among the most profitable in history.



CHRIS YURCHUCK, '96, received the Jepson School of Leadership Studies Alumni Award. Yurchuck, a singer and songwriter, graduated from Richmond with a major in leadership studies and a minor in music. After college, he released two records, and his songs have been featured on television shows including *Felicity* and *Everwood*. His work is currently in programming on A&E, Fox, the Food Network, Oxygen, and Lifetime.



HISTORICAL DATA

Cardounel's role places him in command of 600 sworn officers who protect and serve more than 300,000 citizens living in one of Virginia's oldest counties, Henrico.

- 1634 Established as one of eight original shires for the colony; included 10 counties and three cities
- 1871 First special police officer appointed
- 1908 Mounted patrol recommended by county supervisors
- 1915 First chief of police appointed
- 1934 Eight police officers
- 1989 First woman achieves rank



Hail to the chief

One of Richmond's finest reflects on taking over as Henrico County's chief of police at a time of incredible change and challenge.

After serving with the Tuckahoe Volunteer Rescue Squad in college, Humberto I. Cardounel Jr., R'88, knew he wanted to be a police officer. Almost three decades later, he's making history as the first Hispanic police chief of Henrico County.

"I've said over and over again that this wasn't only the right profession, but the right place for me to do it," Cardounel said. "I never once wavered looking back. I'm serving the community I grew up in."

It's a community that has rapidly changed since his childhood, in part due to an increase of those with backgrounds similar to that of Cardounel, a first-generation American himself. The number of Hispanic residents has risen from just over 2,000 in 1990, two years after he joined the force, to more than 15,000 in 2010. Roughly 11 percent of the residents in Henrico are immigrants, according to a 2014 U.S. Census report.

"This country is built on foreign influence," Cardounel said. "That's what makes us as rich of a society, as rich of a country. It's because we do have so much diversity."

The son of Cuban immigrants is tasked with bringing a changing Henrico community together as national conversations continue to focus on allegations of police misconduct, particularly with minority communities.

"Whether you're talking about Rodney King in L.A., or Ferguson or Baltimore, Chicago, Detroit, no matter what you talk about, the actions of one typically represents the profession as a whole," Cardounel said. "What I'd like for folks to remember is that the overarching majority of folks in this profession are doing the right thing."

However, Cardounel said he believes that the national spotlight on law enforcement has led to positive changes.

"I think it brought more attention to law enforcement in general and prompted more transparency," Cardounel said. "It's prompted folks to ask questions, and that's OK. We are part of government, and we are here to provide a service. It's important for people to ask questions and keep an open mind."

Cardounel has a three-pronged philosophy to his job as chief. It boils down to always doing the right thing, reinforcing that the police force is the guardian of the community, and ensuring the fair treatment of every citizen. Not all of that work is as exciting as the dramatized portrayal of police work seen in movies and television shows.

"I've had both the in-the-streets, saving-lives, chasing-the-bad-guys roles, and I've also had the behind-the-scenes support roles," Cardounel said. "I think the last 28 years have been a journey that prepared me for the different challenges of where I am today."

Since taking on the role in April, Cardounel has focused on building relationships with the community, from hosting "Meet the Chief" open houses to organizing neighborhood walks, in which officers go door to door, meeting the community and addressing concerns.

"That's part of my job, building an even stronger foundation of community trust and support so collectively we can work together to provide a safe and crime-free environment for people to live, work, and raise their families," Cardounel said.

QUOTATION

“There were a lot of walking canes present, but we all seemed to be doing very well.”

PHYLLIS GEE WACKER and PATRICIA MCELROY SMITH, W'56, on their 60th class gathering during Reunion Weekend.

FARAWAY



Photograph by Paul Brockwell Jr.

CAPE TOWN SPIDERS

Students studying this fall in Cape Town, South Africa, enjoy dinner with local alumni during the summer.

South African Spiders

The world seems smaller around the dinner table at Cape Town's Victoria and Alfred Waterfront. Many were meeting for the first time, yet one pair of alumni discovered a shared career passion. An alum-student pair figured out they lived in the same room in Keller Hall. And another pair discovered they're both from the same town.

Connections come easy among Spiders, whether in Richmond or all the way across the sea.

The alumni office now supports regional groups in London, Panama, and Shanghai. In several more countries, alumni connect with Spiders who land in areas farther afield.

In South Africa, the bench is small but passionate. Between Cape Town, Johannesburg, and Pretoria, nearly a

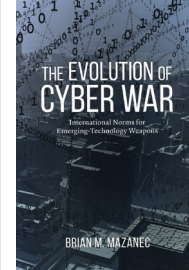
dozen alumni call the country home.

In July, two UR staff members — Ashleigh Brock, '05, and Paul Brockwell Jr. — brought together alumni in Johannesburg and gathered Cape-tonians with 10 students who had recently arrived to study abroad this fall at the University of Cape Town.

“In 10 years, I've actually never had the chance to connect with Richmond like this,” said South African native Paul Kelly, '05. “It's amazing.”

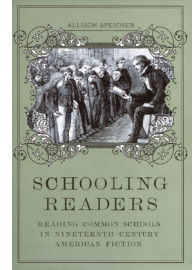
The connections didn't stop at the dinner table. Our pair of staff ran into another alumna visiting Table Mountain. She spotted their Spider shirts and knew she'd found friends, confirming the notion that wherever you may roam, you should keep your eyes open for the red and blue.

BOOKS



THE EVOLUTION OF CYBER WAR
BRIAN MAZANEC, '05

Former Secretary of Defense Leon Panetta once described cyber warfare as “the most serious threat in the 21st century,” capable of destroying our infrastructure and crippling the nation. Mazanec examines the development of constraining norms for cyber war and predicts how the norms will unfold in the future.



SCHOOLING READERS
ALISON SPEICHER, '08

The rural one-room school in America is a common cultural reference that Speicher's book investigates beautifully, unpacking the portrayal of schools as sites of community bonding and social strife that often reflect issues we continue to struggle with today such as fear of violence and debates over how to assess students.

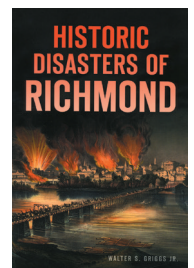
COMING SOON,
NEAR YOU

Curious who the Spiders in your neck of the woods are? Wonder no more. The alumni events team would love to connect you with the Spider Pride outpost where you live. Find your city's alumni crew or learn how to help start one at alumni.richmond.edu/regional-groups.



LITTLE BIG SISTER
AMY BASHIAN MCCOY, '93

This children's novel follows 9-year-old Katie as she learns how to be a supportive little sister to her brother with autism spectrum disorder. Katie and her friends also work together at school to improve others' understanding and acceptance when a new classmate with special needs arrives. Chapters are designed for readers ages 6 to 10.



HISTORIC DISASTERS OF RICHMOND
WALTER S. GRIGGS JR., '63, L'66, and G'71

Richmond has seen its share of disasters both natural and man-made. From fires set by retreating Confederate troops to flu pandemics and train tunnel collapses, Griggs catalogs them and shares the history of Richmond's worst moments, including when an airplane crash at Byrd Field in Henrico left 77 Army recruits dead.

NOTES

We welcome your news. Send information to your class secretary or directly to the magazine at classnotes@richmond.edu. Or you may mail it to the magazine at Puryear Hall 200 • 28 Westhampton Way • University of Richmond, VA 23173. Please include your class year and, if appropriate, maiden name. For your children, please include birth dates rather than ages. Photographs of alumni are also welcome and published as space allows. Please note that the magazine does not publish news of engagements or pregnancies. Information may take up to two issues to publish. Class notes do not appear in any online edition.

The magazine uses undergraduate degree designations for graduates through 1992, and law, graduate, and honorary degree designations for all years.

- B Robins School of Business
- C School of Professional and Continuing Studies
- G Graduate School of Arts and Sciences
- GB Richard S. Reynolds Graduate School of Business
- GC Graduate School of Professional and Continuing Studies
- H Honorary Degree
- L School of Law
- R Richmond College
- W Westhampton College

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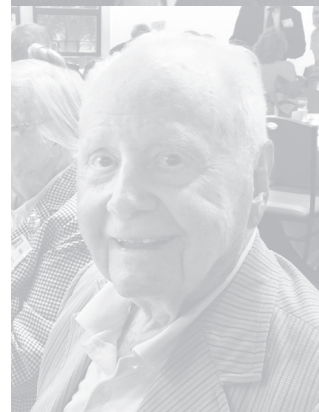
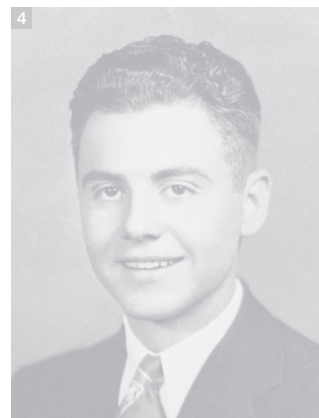
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Photos submitted by or for:
 1. Frances Wiley Harris, W'41
 2. Mary Alice Smith Tillotson, W'41
 3. Bettie Haskins
 Woodson Weaver, W'41
 4. Jim Wagner, R'41
 5. Class of 1951
 6. Class of 1956
 7. Joseph Reynolds, B'63
 8. Class of 1973



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Safe harbor

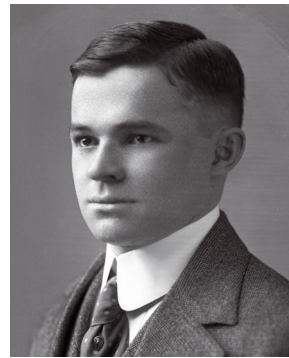
A lesser-known Sept. 11 memory marks the good works of a law graduate and a bright spot in the country's checkered history with Jewish refugees who sought asylum during World War II.

On Aug. 8, 1940, 317 Jewish refugees from Nazi-occupied Europe, mostly families, chartered a desperate voyage aboard a Portuguese cargo ship named the *SS Quanza*. Their goal: Make it to New York or Veracruz, Mexico. Before setting out, the men, women, and children attempted to obtain the visas, whether real or forged, required to enter as refugees.

By this point in World War II, Germany had invaded much of Europe, sending British and French soldiers across the English Channel and flooding the continent's extremities with refugees. This chartered voyage was these refugees' last-ditch effort to avoid persecution by the Third Reich, but their journey was not a comfortable one. They crossed the stormy Atlantic in stifling, windowless bunks below decks during hurricane season.

"All we ate was sardines, sardines, sardines," Elza Weinman, who was 14 at the time, told *The New York Times*. "And then everyone got seasick."

Eleven days later, the ship arrived in New York, where 196 passengers, including



some U.S. citizens, went ashore. The rest were turned away. Their reception in Mexico wasn't much warmer. Eighty-six of the remaining 121 refugees were denied entry and faced repatriation to Nazi-controlled territory and, likely, deportation to concentration camps. (That was the fate of many passengers aboard the *SS St. Louis* after its passengers were denied entry to the U.S. and Cuba in 1939.)

The *Quanza* was on its way back to Europe when it stopped in Norfolk, Va., on Sept. 11 to reload its coal supply. As the ship was docked, a young admiralty lawyer named Jacob Morewitz, a 1916 Richmond Law graduate who had founded a practice with his wife, Sallie Rome Morewitz, filed a

\$100,000 suit on behalf of four passengers in U.S. District Court in Norfolk. Morewitz claimed breach of contract on behalf of

passengers not delivered to Veracruz. These proceedings delayed the *Quanza's* departure and probably saved the refugees' lives.

The rest of the *Quanza's* story unfolded points north of Virginia, reports historian Doris Kearns Goodwin in *No Ordinary Time*. While at Hyde Park, N.Y., Eleanor Roosevelt, honorary head of the U.S. Com-

mittee for the Care of European Children, learned of the passengers' predicament and worked hard to persuade her husband to intervene. After a few days of harried activity, a State Department official reported on the qualifications of the refugees, and President Roosevelt issued an executive order allowing their entry into the U.S.

"It was around midnight when my mother, my aunt, my sister, and I got off the ship," Malvina Schamroth told Frank Overton Brown Jr., R'60, GB'74 and L'76, who wrote about the incident in 2008. "My first impulse was to kiss the ground, but I didn't do it. I'm not sure why I didn't kiss the ground, but when I think about it, I still get goosebumps. I still feel that feeling today."



SEAWORTHY

A detailed model of the *SS Quanza*, featuring mini lifeboats and tiny coils of rope on the deck, is on display in the law school's William Taylor Muse Law Library. Martin Meyer of Chicago built the model and gave it to the library in 2006; a display explains the legal and political significance of the ship.

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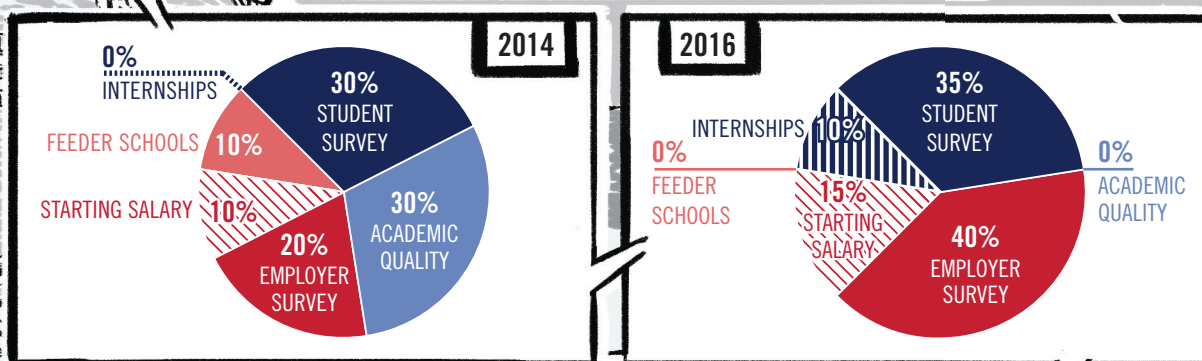
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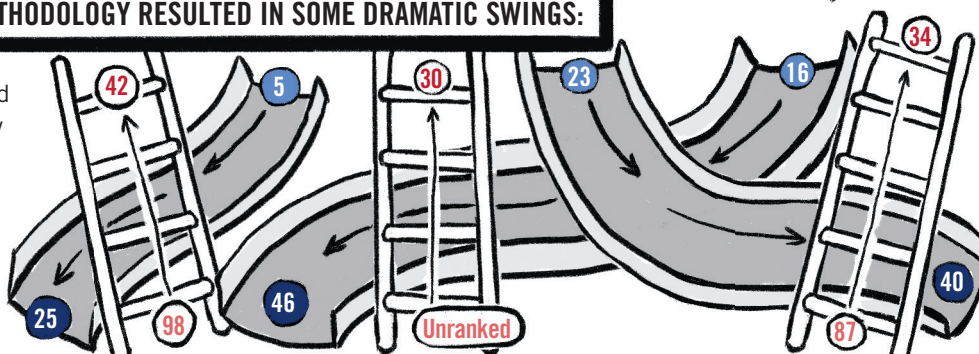
Bloomberg Businessweek ranked the Robins School of Business undergraduate program at 46 earlier this year. In its last ranking, in 2014, it ranked Richmond 16th. **What happened?**

The methodology in 2016 was very different from 2014. **Academic quality disappeared from the calculation, while employer survey results** were given greater weight. In 2014, Richmond stood out for its academic quality.



THE NEW METHODOLOGY RESULTED IN SOME DRAMATIC SWINGS:

Programs moved up and down by as many as 70 places between the 2014 and 2016 rankings.



THE BRIGHT SPOTS:

Starting salaries for Richmond graduates **ranked 23rd**, higher than the overall No. 1 school, Villanova.

Students are highly satisfied, placing Richmond **among the top 25** in the student survey.

Employers not only **pay our graduates well**, but are **eager to offer students internships**; in that measure, we placed 26th.

Where will Bloomberg rank Richmond next time? There won't be a next time. Four days before it released the 2016 rankings, Bloomberg announced it will no longer rank undergraduate business programs.

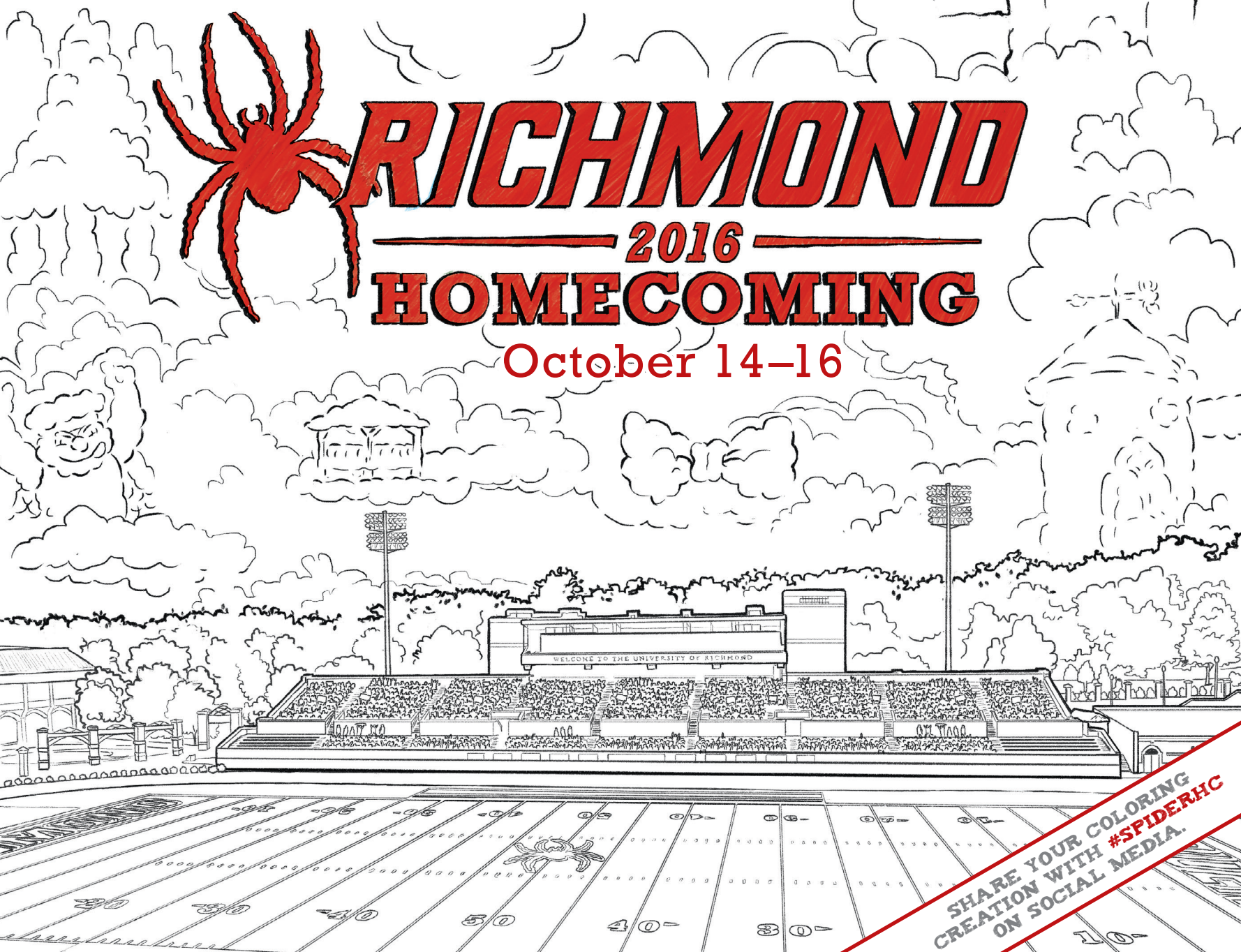


RICHMOND

2016

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Questions?

homecomingweekend@richmond.edu
804-289-8030 | 800-480-4774, ext. 8

Highlights:

- Spiders vs. Villanova at the stadium
- Pregame picnics and tailgates
- Spider Club Invitational Golf Tournament
- Queally Center Dedication
- Student Government Alumni Brunch
- Class of 2016 Reunion